

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, June 26, 1986

Published Since 1877

Dent supervises construction at Baptist camp in Philippines

By Jan Hill,
Press Representative, FMB

Bob Dent, a former journeyman who taught Bible classes in the bush of Liberia, serves as camp manager for the Luzon Baptist Assembly in Cabcan Bataan, Philippines. He is a Golden Gate Seminary graduate from Holly Springs, Miss. His wife Kathy, also a Golden Gate graduate, is from Wichita Falls, Tex.

The Dents, who will serve in the Philippines for two years, arrived in May, 1985. After completing one month in language study, Bob immediately became the supervisor of the construction of a new dormitory which will house about 200 Filipinos, a new bath house, and a washing area for clothes at the camp. He called on his experience of building barns and simple houses back on the farm in Mississippi. He estimates expenses were cut by 30 to 45 percent because of his overseeing the construction personally.

The Dents, who will serve in the Philippines for two years, arrived in May, 1985.

He also supervised extensive repairs on termite damage on other buildings, repaired cracks in the swimming pool, and doubled the size of the kitchen. He redesigned space for more storage and faster food service in the dining hall. Lottie Moon Christmas funds covered all of the improvements which were completed during off season at the camp.

The camp, which can accommodate 500 people, is a popular place because

of its good facilities, beach and low rates. Baptists use it for youth conferences, conventions, and seminars. It is also used by business groups and other organizations throughout the year. Dent said, "In the last ten months we've had from 3,000 to 5,000 visitors, not including our regular Baptist conferences. Most people come for the day only but some stay overnight. The camp facilities are a popular place for weddings, too. The summer calendar (April, May and June) is completely full."

Dent said, "In the last ten months we've had from 3,000 to 5,000 visitors, not including our regular Baptist conferences."

The camp has a beautiful setting overlooking Manila Bay, which includes a palm tree lined beach. The swimming pool and wash areas are supplied by an artesian well. There are 20 huge shady mango trees on the grounds which give an abundance of fruit.

Bob and Kathy are involved in the Baptist church in Limay, a 20 minute drive from their home in Mountain View. Bob teaches the Adult men's Sunday School class and works with the Baptist Men. Kathy plays the piano and helps with the adult choir and is active in W.M.U. They also participate in a Bible study group near their home that church members had begun before they arrived. Several people have been baptized into their church as a result of the group's shar-

ing. The Limay Baptist Church has three mission points, one of which has organized into a self sustaining church.

Both Bob and Kathy have felt limitations in their services because of lack of knowing the language and feel the need for American friends, but they have made many friends in the community. No other Americans live in their town, but Kathy's Catholic next door neighbor often goes shopping with her so she can make sure Kathy gets good prices. She also attends the neighborhood Bible study with them.

Bob and Kathy have taken in stride the problems of limited electricity and water supply. They rent a Filipino built house completely furnished. When they moved in, their landlady just packed up her suitcase and moved out but left all of the closets full.

No other Americans live in their town, but Kathy's Catholic next door neighbor often goes shopping with her.

Kathy has learned how to store water, boil drinking water, and bake in an oven with no thermostat. Ice from the small refrigerator is a precious commodity. The Dents are expecting their first child this month. Bob is the son of Pattie Dent, Holly Springs, newly elected recording secretary, WMU, SBC.

When asked about future plans Bob says he would consider being a Baptist camp manager in the U.S. or wherever God leads.

Mother of exiles

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame, with conquering limbs astride from land to land; here at our sea-washed sunset gates shall stand a mighty woman, with a torch whose flame is the imprisoned lightning, and her name is mother of exiles. — "The New Colossus," by Emma Lazarus

Mississippian's song to be sung at Statue of Liberty

Dawn Rodgers, daughter of MBCB staffer Norman Rodgers, and a writer with Word Records in Nashville, wrote a song that will be sung during festivities honoring American liberty as the renovated Statue of Liberty is dedicated the week of July 4 in New York.

The song is "Hand in Hand," which Miss Rodgers describes as a brotherhood and unity-type of song. The song is included in an album which is being distributed by A & M Records, basically dealing with the Statue of Liberty.

Miss Rodgers, who has written songs recorded by Debbie Boone, Sandi Patti, the Imperials, and Amy Grant, is also a performer in her own right. She sings in the album "Straight to the Heart," and wrote seven of the nine songs in it.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES
Historical Commission, SBC
Nashville, Tennessee

Hand In Hand

Words by Dawn Rodgers
Music by Tricia Walker

Vs1:

We're in a day when we must look beyond ourselves
And see into the hearts of others
As brother looks to brother
And we walk with one another
We'll find that anyone can be a friend

CHO:

Hand in hand
We'll be the strongest we can be
If we learn to stand
By those in need
And shoulder pressed to shoulder
We will build a mighty wall
And nothing in the world can make us fall
If we stand
Hand in hand

Vs2:

Some people say there's not much that we can learn
But I know there's so much love that we're not living
If all that we've been given
We can learn to give away
We'll find that we can build a better day

CHO:

(Repeat)

BRI:

If we can learn to join our voices in a song
We'll see it's our differences that really make us strong

CHO:

(Repeat)

Editorials . . . by Don McGregor

An excellent plan

Jerry R. Kirk is president of the National Coalition Against Pornography, Inc.

He is a Presbyterian minister of Cincinnati who has taken a leave from his pulpit temporarily in order to lead a nationwide fight on pornography. A few days ago he was in Mississippi.

Kirk is determined to close adult book stores and X-rated movie houses in the United States in 2½ years and says that it can be done.

He realizes that the task he has laid out for himself is not easy. He says, "The church of Jesus Christ has seen the victims of pornography and has walked by on the other side of the road." And yet the church should be his strongest ally and supporter.

"Where have the Christians been?" asks Kirk. He notes that "Cable porn and porn movies are proliferating into the motels and into the homes via both cable and satellite. What used to

be in the sleazy part of downtown is now downstairs and is coming to family rooms and living rooms across America. Cable is now in 40 to 50 percent of the homes and is projected to be in 90 percent of the homes by 1990." He quotes the editor of a pornographic magazine as saying that he'll fight until triple X films are available in every home. Kirk quotes the man as saying, "We will push the First Amendment as far as it will go."

"God only has a first team," Kirk says, "and that is the body of Christ." Leaders can talk to leaders, he declares. "Public servants want to serve when they know they are not dealing with a bunch of crazies," he said.

To be effective, Kirk notes, the pornography fighters must know the laws and they must agree on the focus. The laws are on the books, he says. They simply need to be enforced.

"What is God saying?" he asks and answers, "How much are your children worth?" He points out that closing adult book stores and X-rated movie houses will hurt the Mafia because "90 percent of hard core pornography is in the hands of organized crime."

He says that Christian leaders need to pray, to determine their target, and to build an army. He notes that the attorney general's report on pornography due for release July 3 will be helpful.

Kirk's church has released him for 90 percent of the time and is paying his salary so that he can lead his fight on pornography across the nation. He expects Mississippi Baptist to be willing to join him in the battle.

In whatever way we do it, we need to be fighting this menace. Jerry Kirk has put together an excellent plan for attack.

Guest opinion . . .

"He that ruleth . . . must be just"

By Larry Braidfoot

God established rulers and authorities to insure justice among humans and nations. Only the ruler or elected official who works for justice is fulfilling his or her God-given opportunity.

No king in Israel or Judah was honored by the people and by God as was King David. In spite of his frailties, David led the people with great wisdom and loyalty.

In his last public address to the nation, David emphasized justice as an essential quality for the one who rules and leads the nation. The leader who

acts with justice sensitizes the people to the need for equality and compassion in every area of government, including public policy.

Although our form of government is different and our leaders are not kings, David's words are still vital for our understanding of how political officials are to serve. The requirement of justice binds our leaders to act for the good of the nation and not for their own personal interest. God expects this of them. We should expect it of them.

Christian Citizenship Sunday is an

occasion for prayer. It is a special day to pray that God will give the leaders of our local communities, states, and nation the wisdom and insight to perform their duties with justice. It is a time to give thanks to God for the blessings of liberty and for those leaders who have helped establish the justice we enjoy as citizens of the United States of America.

Larry Braidfoot is general counsel and director of Christian citizenship development for the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Guest opinion . . .

'86 Coming of Age—Chautauqua

By Jack Gullledge

When the fall colors of brilliant orange, flaming red, and dazzling gold splash across the mountainsides, some 10,000 senior adults from across the land load into cars, vans, and church buses and head for Ridgecrest, North Carolina, or Glorieta, New Mexico.

Every fall, thousands converge on the two Conference Centers for one of the spectacular weeks known as Chautauquas.

In keeping with the early Chautauqua movement, which began in 1874 at Lake Chautauqua, New York, and majored on Christian education and entertainment, today's participants experience spiritual enrichment, personal development, crafts, and

sight-seeing.

Six Chautauqua weeks are planned for Ridgecrest, North Carolina: September 22-26; September 29-October 3; October 6-10; October 13-17; October 20-24; and October 27-31.

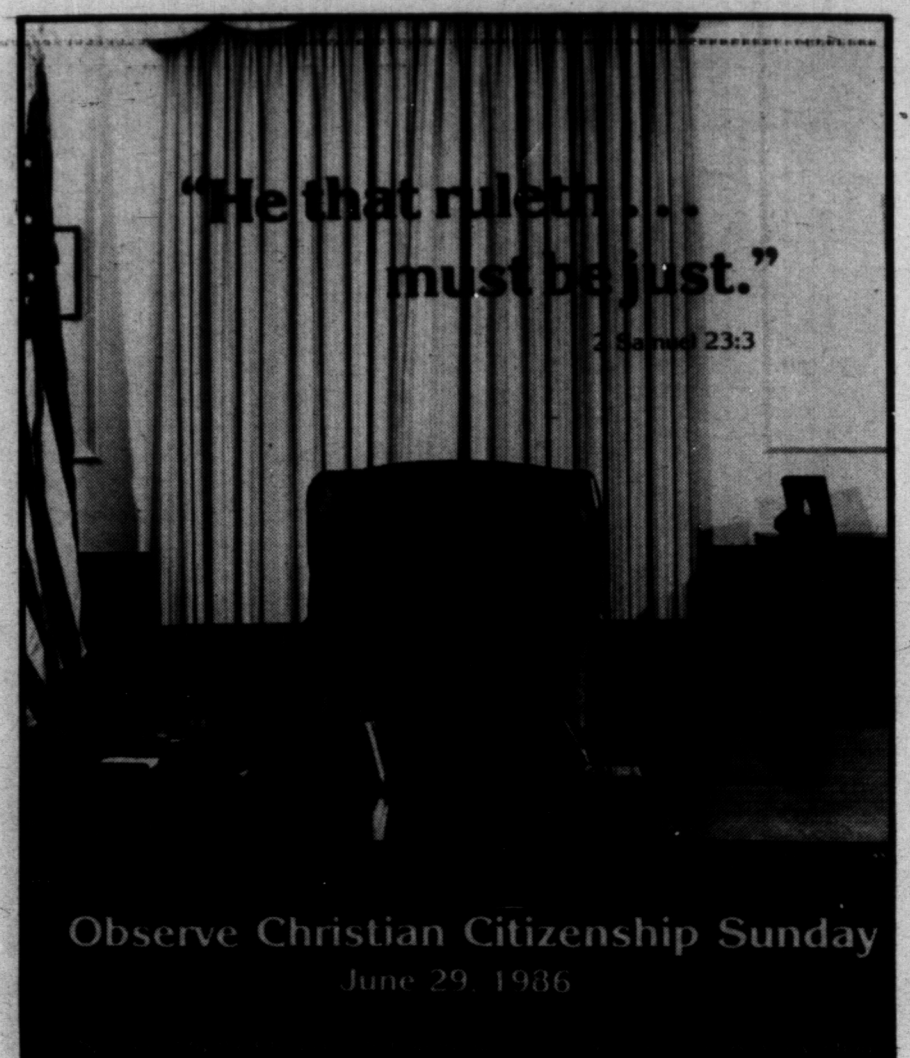
Four weeks are scheduled at Glorieta, New Mexico: September 15-19; September 22-26; September 29-October 3; and October 6-10.

These Chautauquas are the first of four major events celebrating the COMING OF AGE emphasis sponsored by the Family Ministry Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board in 1986-87. The other three events are the first Southern Baptist

Senior Adult Convention, April 27-29, 1987, in Fort Worth, Texas; the observance of Senior Adult Day, May 3, 1987, in all Southern Baptist churches; and a special study in every local church of the book, *Coming of Age: Senior Adults and the Churches*, during August, 1987.

More information is available by writing: COMING OF AGE, Family Ministry Department, 127 Ninth Avenue North, Nashville, Tennessee 37234. Further detailed information about these events will be published in forthcoming issues of *Mature Living*.

Jack Gullledge is editor, *Mature Living*, Baptist Sunday School Board.



Retirement planning: Pound of prevention

The "pounding" has always been a symbol of the church's love and a means of supplemental support for a new pastor and his family.

Through the years, the pounding has endured. But times have changed; and though food remains as basic a need as ever, churches, pastors and staff members must consider other essential needs also.

Pension planning is needed today more than ever.

According to pension experts, a retiree needs income equivalent to 70 percent of what he earns in his last year of full-time employment to maintain his normal lifestyle.

Without a pension or another form of regular income, such as an individual retirement account, most people would not be able to maintain their pre-retirement lifestyle.

As a pastor or employee of a Southern Baptist church, you have convenient access to the Church Annuity Plan, a pension program administered by the Annuity Board.

In planning a strategy for building a retirement reserve, several factors must be considered, including:

- When you begin contributing;
- Adequate, regular contributions;
- Taxes; and
- Earnings.

Length of participation and adequacy and regularity of contributions are factors you control in building a retirement account. Taxes and earnings are more or less beyond your control.

However, contributions to the Church Annuity Plan can be tax-

sheltered, and Annuity Board earnings compare favorably with similar retirement plans.

In order to take full advantage of your account's long-term growth potential, you should enroll in the Church Annuity Plan as soon as you can and continue monthly contributions of at least 10 percent of compensation throughout your entire active ministry.

The later you join the plan, the larger your contributions must be in order to provide adequate income at retirement.

A higher percentage of contributions, of course, produces greater benefits. Contributing a constant percentage rate rather than a fixed dollar amount assures that your participation increases proportionately with income.

Here's an example of how your account grows, based on (1) the recommended 10 percent minimum monthly contribution, (2) that your salary during the first year of participation is \$12,000, (3) that you receive annual 7 percent raises and (4) that your contributions earn an average 9 percent each year.

- After 35 years:
- Your annual salary will be \$128,112;
 - Your retirement account will have grown to \$655,560;
 - Your monthly retirement benefits will be \$5,384 or approximately 50 percent of your pre-retirement salary.

To keep the illustration in perspective, consider this: Assuming 5 percent annual inflation, a loaf of bread (Continued on page 8)

The Baptist Record

VOLUME 110 (ISSN-0005-5778) NUMBER 21
Published weekly except weeks of July 4 and Christmas. Subscription \$7.35 a year payable in advance. Second class postage paid at Jackson, Mississippi. The Baptist Record is a member of Southern Baptist Press Association.

Editor . . . Don McGregor
Associate Editor . . . Tim Nicholas
Assistant Editor . . . Anne McWilliams
Advertising Coordinator . . . Evelyn Keyes
Editorial Assistant . . . Florence Larrimore
Circulation Assistant . . . Renee Walley
Financial Records . . . Betty Anne Bailey
Computer Operator . . . Irene Martin

Baptist Record Advisory Committee: Martha Chambliss, Oxford; Ferrell O. Cork Jr., Aberdeen; Marcus Finch, Meridian, chairman; Bruce Hill, Lexington; Gary Holland, Pascagoula; Owen Lusk, Magee, vice-chairman; Ex officio, Evelyn Keyes, Jackson, secretary.

Send news and communications to
The Editor, Baptist Record
P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205

The Second Front Page

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, June 26, 1986

Published Since 1877

Churches must follow up on summer youth decisions

By Terri Lackey

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP) — Following an emotional week at Summer Youth Celebrations — where hundreds of teenagers make some decision regarding Christ — Baptist youth leaders face the challenge of seeing that their youths' initial excitement does not subside.

"Churches need to treat this as a major spiritual turning point in the lives of a lot of the youth," said Curt Bradford, youth consultant in the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's church training department. "They need to say, 'OK, what next?'"

This summer, more than one-fourth of the 1,297 youth attending Youth Celebration week at Glorieta, N.M., and 2,087 at a similar conference at Ridgecrest, N.C., made spiritual decisions, said Clyde Hall, supervisor of the youth section of the board's church training department, which sponsors the celebrations.

At Glorieta, 256 made Christian faith rededications; 58, professions of faith in Christ; 113, church vocation decisions; and 17, various other decisions. At Ridgecrest, there were 426 rededications, 67 professions of faith,

42 church vocations, and 32 others.

It is extremely important youth leaders know how to follow up on the decisions youth make at the celebrations, Bradford said, adding, they must teach them a daily quiet time and daily Bible study are needed for a continuing Christian education.

Hall said the youth weeks at Glorieta and Ridgecrest are designed to teach youth how to continue to grow spiritually and personally. He noted week-long courses on how to guide youth in growing in Christian faith also are offered to youth leaders.

"The whole week is designed as a beginning in personal growth," Hall said. "It's more than that, but that's part of it." The youth gain experience in memorizing Scripture, taking worship notes, participating in group studies, experiencing daily a quiet time and studying church training curriculum.

"We want them to go home and continue the same types of things they do here," he added.

Dickie Dunn, associate pastor and minister of education and administration at First Church, Beaumont,

Texas, said churches must continue to maintain programs week-by-week to provide growth experiences for the youth.

"Kids can't just survive on this mountaintop experience," he said. "Churches need to offer continued programs through Sunday School, Church Training, missions, and choir."

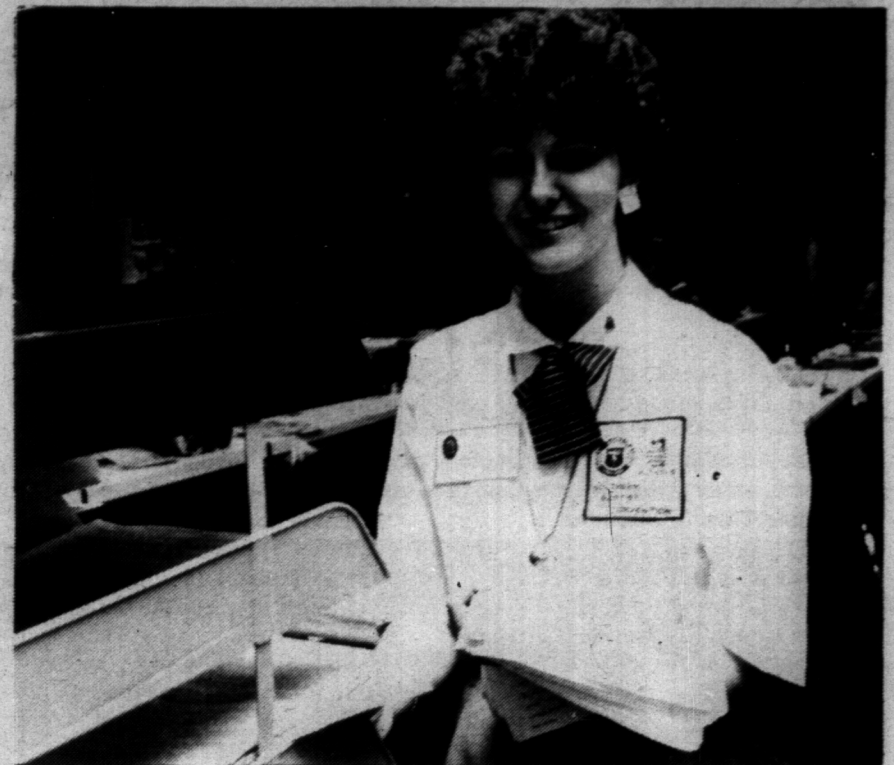
DeRema Dunn, a youth church training leader at the church, said she believes the youth should "read God's Word every day."

"That's one very good way to keep the commitment real," she said, adding praying daily and ministering to others are ways to keep the Christian faith strong.

Steve Ware, youth minister at Two Rivers Church, Nashville, said involving youth in the worship service can help "keep their excitement going."

Ron Cunningham, a former youth minister with Little Rock, Ark., churches and a youth celebration program leader, said he agrees that "getting kids involved" is the key.

Terri Lackey writes for the BSSB.



Acteen acts as page

Holly Benzenhafer, a member of Prentiss Church, Prentiss, places news stories into the several hundred boxes set up for press representatives who wrote thousands of stories about the events surrounding the SBC in Atlanta. Miss Benzenhafer served as a page because of her participation on the Acteens Advisory Panel. Only six girls at the time serve on that panel which is applied for through *Accent* magazine with recommendations from pastor, WMU director and others, having to write essays, and involvement in Studia. She had never been to a national WMU or SBC meeting. She said she enjoyed getting access to places she would not see otherwise. The difficulty was in having to take "a neutral position."

Argentina teams see 966 professions of faith

Twenty teams of volunteers who held revival crusades in Argentina in May report 652 professions of faith made during their 1,206 visits in homes in the ten days; 314 professions of faith made during church services; 966 total professions of faith; 82 coming for baptism; and 405 making other decisions, or a total of 1,442 decisions.

Some of those on the teams were from Mississippi. Three teams went from Bolivar County. A report from their team leaders was printed in a recent issue of the *Bolivar Baptist Bulletin*. (Fourteen churches and many individuals helped the nine to go from Bolivar.)

Highlights from Larry Thornton: The experience of sharing with the people of Argentina the living faith has been a time long to be remembered. Liso Simmons, Jeanne Robison, and I ministered in two churches. We found the people to be open to our messages. Home meetings, unlike what we do in our country, resulted in more professions of faith than in the church services.

We learned "flexibility" and patience in dealing with a new culture. However, I again realized that "the language of the heart" is far clearer than either Spanish or English.

I am grateful that Bolivar County Baptists provided the means for such an outreach. Without doubt, this is a worthy mission emphasis that bears fruit both here and there.

Highlights from Talmadge Pannell: Barriers separate people from each other and must be crossed by those who witness effectively. Doc Brown, Brooks Alexander, and I made up

Team #10. In Argentina we saw barriers of geography, culture, religion, race, and economics broken down. From the four churches where we witnessed, 34 precious persons received Jesus as Savior and many others experienced revival.

What does this mean to me? Daily I pray for this sea of people anxiously awaiting the good news of liberty through Christ our Lord. Surely I will be a more dedicated pastor to missions in Bolivar County. Thanks, dear people for sending us. Your work of faith is established in thousands of hearts.

Highlights from Joe Anderson: Mike Self, Katherine Gladden, and I made up Team #13. Our assignment was the Villa Gazzoni Church in Parana and the Bella Vista Church in Rosario. We not only saw 41 people come to Christ as Villa Gazzoni, but also helped the pastor to begin organizing the church for ministry. In Bella Vista, we saw 70 people come to Christ and many others become a part of the church. When we arrived in Bella Vista, 10 adults from the mother church were carrying on a ministry with children. When we left, God had raised up a church of 70 to 80 adults in five days.

This has helped me as a pastor to try to lead people to see that if our world is to know about Christ, we must all get involved no matter what the cost to us as individuals. Bold Missions will not be accomplished by missionaries or those of us who are pastors. It will only be accomplished if we join hands together to see that our world comes to know Christ.

Eugene Cotey is named chairman of Home Mission Board Search Committee

ATLANTA (BP) — A seven-member search committee has been appointed to recommend a new president for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board to succeed William G. Tanner who has become executive director-treasurer of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

Eugene Cotey, pastor of First Church, Murfreesboro, Tenn., is chairman of the search committee.

Committee members were appointed by the five elected officers of the 85-member board in accordance with the agency's bylaws.

Travis Wiginton, pastor of Bethel Church, Norman, Okla., and chairman of the board, announced the selection of the search committee in a letter to all members of the board the week after the Southern Baptist Convention in mid-June.

In the same letter, Wiginton also announced appointment of an eight-member "site development committee" to study and recommend improvements in the board's property in mid-town Atlanta.

In an interview, Wiginton said the five officers sought to appoint members of the search committee to give a balance between men and

women, pastors and lay members, new and older members.

"The committee was not appointed on the basis of theology or politics in the denomination," Wiginton said. He added there was no attempt to "balance" political points of view on the committee.

Wiginton said he and the officers had received 35 suggestions of persons to serve on the committee yet the bylaws stipulated the committee could not be more than seven members.

Cotey, chairman of the search committee, urged all Southern Baptists to pray for the committee, and to send any recommendations they want the committee to consider to him in writing in care of First Baptist Church, 200 East Main, Murfreesboro, Tenn. 37130.

The committee will hold its first meeting in Atlanta on July 8 to begin drawing up a profile of the qualifications they will look for in a president and reviewing resumes, Wiginton said. Cotey and Wiginton asked recommendations be submitted in writing before that date.

Other members named to the search committee are:

— J. Don Aderhold, pastor, Columbia Drive Church, Decatur, Ga.;

— Lawanna McIver, television hostess on the ACTS network and member of Wilshire Church, Dallas, where her husband is pastor.

— Troy L. Morrison, director of church-minister relations for the Alabama Baptist State Convention, Montgomery;

— Lula D. Walker, Woman's Missionary Union director and adult Sunday School teacher for First Church, Beaverton, Ore.

— Frank S. Wells, pastor of Briarcliff Church, Atlanta, and former missionary to Indonesia and director of the SBC Foreign Mission Board's missionary orientation;

— M. A. Winchester, medical doctor and member of First Church, Stearns, Ky.

As chairman of the board, Wiginton will be an ex officio member of both the search committee and the site development committee.

Appointed to the site development committee were John P. Faris of Greenville, S.C., chairman; Carolyn Byrd of Charlotte, N.C.; R. Herschel Chevallier of Knoxville, Tenn.; Clif

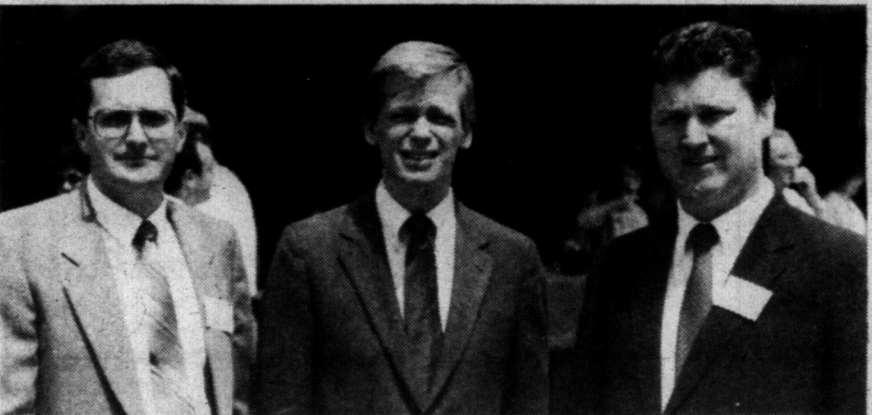
(Continued on page 5)



Michael Culbreath, religion editor of the Jackson Clarion Ledger, interviews J. Roy McComb, pastor of First Church, Columbia; center, and Keith Gordon, pastor of East Columbia Church, Columbia.



Paul Jacobs Jr., the man on the right, is smiling because he just won a trip to anywhere in the U.S. that Eastern Airlines flies. He won it at a Baptist Tour Leader breakfast hosted by Libbie Christie (left) of Bryan Tours in Jackson. Paul Sr., is at center. This was the first convention Paul Jr., who enters Mississippi State University this fall, ever attended. The Jacobs were messengers from Northside Church, Clinton. Ms. Christie is a member of First Church, Jackson.



This trio of Mississippi Baptists consists of Roy Moore, pastor of Fairfield Church, Moselle; Stan Fornea, pastor of First Church, Marks; and Wendell Frasier, minister of education at Tylertown Church, Tylertown.



These are Heather Watson and her father Granville Watson. He is interim pastor of Swiftwater Church. Miss Watson just graduated from Mississippi University for Women.



New officers of the Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists are (from left) Bob Kendig, Memphis, Tenn., parliamentarian; Jerry Swimmer, Iuka, Miss., assistant music director; Dick Barrett, Bremen, Ga., music director; Jackson Cox, Milledgeville, Ga., secretary-treasurer; Henry Linginfeller, Alcoa, Texas, vice president; and Rudy Hernandez, San Antonio, Texas, president. (Photo by Stanley Leary)

Mississippi people attend the SBC



L'Nola Hall, a native of New Albany, Miss., is a missionary of the Home Mission Board's Christian Social Ministries Centers Department. She serves as director of the Baptist Stewart Center in Atlanta. Previously she was assistant director of missions for Houston Mission Centers in Texas. She spoke at the Sunday evening session of the Woman's Missionary Union Convention and also had about 50 of the children from the Stewart Center there for a brief presentation.



James Yates, pastor of First Church, Yazoo City, made it to television during the SBC meeting in Atlanta. A member of the SBC Executive Committee, Yates introduced a recommendation from the committee. This photo was shot from the newsroom.



Buster Pray, a native of Jackson and now minister of music at First Church, Wichita Falls, Texas, leads the choir and orchestra of that church as they perform at the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference prior to the Southern Baptist Convention. Pray's mother, Dot Pray, is a keyboard specialist with the Mississippi Baptist Church Music Department.



Owen Cooper, center, displays for messengers a Distinguished Citizen Award presented by Foy Valentine, director of the SBC Christian Life Commission. Mrs. Cooper is at left. The award was given for leadership in Christian social ethics to the Yazoo City layman, the most recent layman to be SBC president. Said Valentine, "Owen Cooper stands for all that's best in Baptist life... this third-worldly Christian, prophetic churchman, concerned citizen, lifelong learner, practical dreamer, Baptist statesman, and doer of the gospel." Cooper, who said

he once opposed Christian Life Commission stands against racism, said he accepted the award on behalf of many Southern Baptists who have changed in understanding how to apply the teachings of Jesus Christ in relation to others. He said he has changed from "a person of prejudice into a person who accepts that God is no respecter of persons," from a person of inaction into a person involved in the battle against world hunger; and from a person of concern into a person of action against such things as child abuse, pornography, and drugs.

GOOD NEWS AMERICA, GOD LOVES YOU



Thursday, June 26, 1986

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5

Guy Henderson, director of evangelism for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, has gathered reports from a number of associations which had churches participating in the Good News America simultaneous revivals.

ches participating in the Good News America simultaneous revivals.

Reports have been received from 30 of 75 associations (Friday, May 16)

A total of 641 churches reported 1896 decisions and of this number there were 913 professions of faith.

George Association, Horace Glass, director of missions, reported 150 decisions with "90 percent of them being on professions of faith."

Pike Association, Glen Williams, director of missions, reported 46 professions of faith and that the revival had "created a spirit of togetherness" in their area.

Olyn Roberts in Natchez reported 52 saved and a "renewed interest in our churches" and Bobby Perry of Gulf Coast Association, where there

were 250 decisions, said it "brought pastors and people closer together in praying for a united effort and had some good solid results in our churches."

Calhoun Association, Wayne Gullett, said, "those churches that prepared as suggested came out a lot stronger and more together. They were the ones that experienced revival."

Ervin Brown, Northwest Association, where there were 150 decisions and 75 professions of faith reported thus far said, "there were more results per church than in the regular

revivals" and "the distribution of Bibles was one of the best things in the Good News Revivals."

Most churches in Good News America '86 reported the best attendance and highest sustained interest of any revival in the last few years. Maurice Clayton, pastor of Hillcrest Church in Jackson, said it was like another Pentecost. One director of missions requested Baptists have one simultaneous revival effort every year.

The next scheduled simultaneous revival is for the spring of 1990 and preparation is already under way.

Missions directors hear Pollard

ATLANTA — Lost purpose, not false doctrine has caused the demise of denominations throughout history, Frank Pollard, pastor of First Church, Jackson, Miss., reminded Southern Baptist directors of missions.

Leadership is different than management, Pollard emphasized.

"A leader is one who knows where we are going," said Pollard, who pointed to the Apostle Paul as an example of a leader with "an eye on the main theme."

"There has never been a denomination that has gone down because of false doctrine, but rather because of lost purpose."

Pollard urged the associational leaders not to become dull religious

professionals, who violate the biblical commandment against taking God's name in vain.

"Vain means empty and lifeless and without direction," he explained. "It's the sin of dull religion, of losing the sense of wonder in our ministry."

"The sin of our age is a mild, lifeless kind of religion. And the world around us is seeing it."

The Mississippi pastor and former president of Golden Gate Seminary, said man is created to be mastered and every person is controlled by someone or something.

Adding that man's freedom allows him to choose his master, Pollard urged the directions of missions to select God as master.

"Our lives will not work unless we say we are willing to be mastered by God."

Calling those gathered for the conference "the influencers of the influencers," Pollard recalled that "in my young life some of the most important people were directors of missions."

Prior to Pollard's address, the group elected officers for the upcoming year. Those officers are Carl Duck, Nashville, Tenn., president; Mack Smoke, Baytown, Texas, first vice president; Paul Camp, Macon, Ga., second vice president; Maurice Flowers, Laurel, Miss., secretary; Robert Wainwright, Oxford, N.C., treasurer.

Staff Changes

Joe McKeever, pastor of First Church, Columbus, since Jan. 1, 1974, has accepted the call of First Church, Charlotte, N. C., and will be in the pulpit there for his first sermon on July 13.

In Charlotte McKeever will follow Charles Page, who has become pastor of First Church, Nashville, Tenn. Franklin Paschall, a former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, has retired from that pastorate. Page

followed a native Mississippian, Carl Bates, as pastor of First Church, Charlotte. Bates also is a former president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The Charlotte church was relocated 12 years ago and has just broken ground for a \$5 million auditorium to seat 1,600. The church has 2,700 members.

In Columbus during McKeever's ministry the membership gave almost \$2 million to missions through the Cooperative Program. Total missions gifts during that period were \$4 million. In 1973 the Lottie Moon offer-

ing was \$15,000. In 1985 it was \$105,000. The goal for 1986 is \$115,000.

McKeever's last service in Columbus was June 15. He plans to continue his cartoon syndication following his move to Charlotte.

Another former Charlotte pastor was the late C. C. Warren, who initiated the 30,000 movement while he was president of the Southern Baptist Convention. That was an effort to establish 30,000 new churches and missions among Southern Baptists.

Mrs. Warren now lives in Yazoo City. She has retired from a professorship at Blue Mountain College.

Cotey named

(Continued from page 3)

ford E. Hogue of Midland, Texas; Ronnie H. Yarber of Mesquite, Texas; Clark G. Hutchinson of Marietta, Ga.; Helen S. Landers of Jonesboro, Ga.; D. F. Norman of Stone Mountain, Ga.; and Marvin L. Prude of Birmingham, Ala.

Correction

The 1987 Southern Baptist Convention preacher will be Jerry Vines, co-pastor of First Church, Jacksonville, Fla., not Stan Coffey as cited in last week's Baptist Record. Roy Fish, evangelism professor at Southwest-

ern Seminary, will be alternate preacher, and Fort Worth music evangelist John McKay will be music director. The meeting will take place June 16-18.

IMMEDIATE OPENING WITH HOME MISSION BOARD

SYSTEMS ANALYST

RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE: Preparation of system design and programming specifications; instructing programmers and operations personnel during systems programming and testing.

REQUIREMENTS: Four years experience in COBOL programming; formal training and/or experience in systems design; experience in micro-computer programming; undergraduate degree in Computer Science, Information Systems or related business degree; experience on HP3000/48 a plus.

Become part of an aggressive DP shop committed to excellence in service. Send resume to:

Employment Services
Home Mission Board SBC
1350 Spring St., NW
Atlanta, GA 30367



Come to the BEACH For great Family Fun on the GULF



SUN & FUN Family Package \$150
(per person - double occupancy)
6 DAYS/5 NIGHTS May 25-Sept. 9, 1986
(Sundays thru Thursdays)

- \$50 Food Allowance
 - 5 nights accommodations
 - Discount coupon for area attractions
- Shorter or longer stays available

At the Biloxi Beach Motor Inn, we've got everything you need to make your vacation great. 184 spacious rooms. A full-service restaurant. Water sports. Nightly entertainment. And a spectacular view of our Gulf. Carolyn or Dorrie in the Reservation Office can design a special money-saving plan for your individual vacation needs. Use this coupon to get your free brochure.

Gentlemen: Please send free brochure, rates:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

• PHONE •
601/388-3310

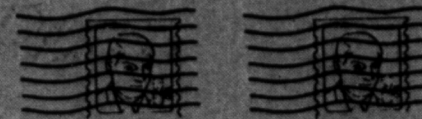
**BILOXI BEACH
MOTOR INN**

4650 W. BEACH BLVD. Dept. 247

BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI 39531



Letters to the editor



Letters to the editor must be limited to 300 words and the editor reserves the right to trim those that are longer. Editorial prerogatives must be reserved under all circumstances, and the opinions of the letter writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff of the Baptist Record. Only signed letters will be used, but the writer may request that his name be withheld.

Air of compromise

Editor:

The editorial in The Baptist Record on 5-29-86 appears to have an air of compromise. It sounds like it was written by a moderate trying to hide his true feeling and cunningly seeking to influence the reader for modernism.

This article states, "And the fact of the matter is that 99 percent of Southern Baptists don't care, but they do wish the war would be over in a hurry."

How can anyone presume this as a fact? It is an opinion. This is the kind of reporting that the moderates and liberals love.

It is my point of view that most Southern Baptists do care about preserving the complete Bible as God's Word. I believe they desire to win the conflict of take over by the moderates and liberals.

Clifford C. Davidson
Jackson

The editorials in the BAPTIST RECORD are the opinions of the editor. They speak for no one else.

While I am neither moderate nor fundamentalist, I believe there is one statement in your letter that must be corrected. In spite of whatever protestations to the contrary that one might hear, it was the moderates who were in control until 1979; and it was the fundamentalists who took over. So it is the moderates who have been trying to prevent a takeover, albeit unsuc-

Help for pastor

Editor:

As a follow-up to the letter entitled "Pastor in Need" in the June 12, 1986, issue of The Baptist Record, we want to share the following information.

The Pine Grove Baptist Church and various ones in the Clarke County Baptist Association, Quitman, Ms., where the church is located, has and intends to assist our brother, Aubrey Jones, in every way we can with our Lord's help and leadership.

Brother Aubrey Jones, his family, the Pine Grove Baptist Church, and the Clarke County Baptist Association, Quitman, Ms. appreciates beyond words to express all that has and or will be done through prayer, cards, calls, visits, gifts, and love to assist Bro. Aubrey Jones and his dear family.

Pine Grove Church has continued to pay Bro. Jones salary and will continue to pay his salary, less travel expense, until Sept. 30. From the time of his resignation, he and his family were informed by the church that they were welcome to stay in the pastory until their plans were complete as to what they were going to do.

Through the Baptist Record, and with the knowledge and approval of Rev. Aubrey Jones and the Pine Grove Baptist Church, we welcome any assistance that anyone can give to Bro. Aubrey Jones to help him in this time of need.

cessfully. And until we have a definition, we don't know who to call a liberal.

I believe that 99 percent of Southern Baptists have little interest in the battle, for that would leave 1.4 million who are involved in it to some degree. In view of the fact that the largest convention attendance has been 45,000, I believe that 1.4 million would pretty well encompass all of those who have much of an interest. In my 900-member church I doubt that there are more than nine or 10 who have much interest. To get the figure accurately would pose a problem, but I imagine that if every church sent the maximum number of messengers to the convention, there would not be more than 200,000. That is far short of 1.4 million. But the largest number of messengers to date was only one-quarter of that supposed maximum.

Regardless, I will have to tell you this for sure. I am trying to influence no one for modernism. I am about as conservative as they come myself, but I am not going to be forced into a camp against my will in spite of the statement of both camps that you have to be in one or the other. I am in neither.

I do agree with you on one thing, however. I am convinced that most Southern Baptists do care about preserving the complete Bible as God's Word. In fact, I believe we would be hard pressed to find the few who might feel otherwise. — Editor

His address is Rev. Aubrey Jones, Route 4, Box 20 Quitman, Ms. 39355.

If anyone has any questions, he should feel free to call Rev. Aubrey Jones at 776-6745; Bro. Lewis Mayo, 687-0053, deacon chairman of Pine Grove Church; and/or Rev. Grady Crowell, director of missions, Clarke Association, Quitman, Ms. 776-3958.

Thanks for all you have done and/or will do.

All persons mentioned in this letter gave approval for their names and phone numbers to be printed.

Sherry Wade

Signed also by

Members present of the

Pine Grove Baptist Church
on June 15, 1986

P.S. After Sept. 30, 1986, the only predictable income for Bro. Aubrey Jones is about \$200 per month from the Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Hymns dropped

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (EP) — "Onward Christian Soldiers" and most of "Battle Hymn of the Republic" will be dropped from the hymnal if the United Methodist Church's General Conference affirms a 10-8 committee vote taken May 17. The committee voted to drop the hymns because of their militaristic imagery; supporters of the hymns said they were merely a rallying cry for Christians.

Making better decisions

Editor:

We all make decisions. Most are minor decisions, but some are big decisions. A few of the big decisions we make can affect the course of our lives. Where we live, the type of work we do, who we marry, rearing our children, etc., can be the direct results of our decisions.

Did we make these decisions alone, or did we seek God's assistance through prayer in making the decisions?

In my reading of the Bible I find that when great Old Testament personalities sought God's help in making their decisions, then those decisions turned out right. When God's help was not sought, the decisions

usually were not good ones.

In the New Testament God's help was constantly sought through prayer by Jesus Christ, the Son of God. The four gospel writers mention that Jesus prayed to God prior to every major earthly event in his life.

I believe the average person in most cases makes good decisions. However, in making decisions with the assistance of God, then those decisions will result in BETTER decisions.

With God's help we cannot make a bad decision! After all, ALL wisdom comes from God.

Robert S. Leigh
Jackson

Mrs. Morgan's passing

Editor:

I was in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, the night that Mrs. W. C. Morgan went home to be with the Lord; and it was not until we called home from Portsmouth, New Hampshire, on June 6 that I learned of her death and the fact that I had been asked to serve as a pallbearer at her funeral on June 9.

I knew of Mr. W. C. Morgan, who prior to his death was the state music secretary for the Mississippi Baptist Convention; but during my beginning years as a Baptist, (the late 1950's), I did not know Mrs. Morgan. It has never been my privilege to hear Mrs. Morgan teach. I understand that she taught the J. O. Y. Sunday School class for ladies at Woodland Hills Baptist Church in Jackson since 1948. And, because she was known to have an extraordinary talent for discerning truths from the Word of God, she once taught Bible at Woodland Hills Baptist Academy.

There was a saintly confidence and spiritual strength in the demeanor of Kate Morgan that I came to observe

while attending church. I was also aware of the fact that this lady was a super fervent and loving mother and grandmother. When I observed Mrs. Morgan dealing with questions that arose in any aspect of her service to her church, I always had the feeling that she possessed a sound theological map that was very distinctly drawn with solidly paved doctrinal highways leading always to clearly definitive answers.

The homegoing of Mrs. Morgan subtracts from this particular church a personality that I somehow naively expected to always be there. I cannot adequately enumerate all the qualities that were personified in the lovely Christian character of Kate Morgan. I do, however, ponder the empty place in a pew, the loss of a skilled and dedicated teacher, and the loss of a leader in the Baptist church where I worship . . . and I am stunned by this loss.

Jimmy Cotten
Jackson

Handgun control

Editor:

I strongly object to the article "Statistics Picture America as a nation of handguns" being printed in the May 22 issue of the Baptist Record. First because it presents a biased view toward handgun ownership and second because it has nothing to do with the activities of Mississippi Baptists.

The article is typical of the media coverage of handgun-related issues in that it presents the fallacy that handguns are the culprit and that handgun control is the solution. Limiting handgun availability is no more the solution to reducing crimes committed with handguns than limiting automobile availability would be the solution to reducing crimes committed with automobiles.

And let's face the facts: the ultimate intent of groups working for controls on handgun availability is to prevent the private ownership of handguns by law abiding citizens, a right guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States. This naive approach

would only remove the right of law-abiding citizens to keep and bear arms to protect ourselves. Criminals would still obtain handguns by theft and black market, and I doubt they will turn theirs in.

The solution to the criminal misuse of handguns or any firearm is sure and stiff punishment for these crimes.

Not only is the article inappropriate, it is biased toward handgun control restrictions. The casual, uninformed reader could easily be misled by this propaganda into thinking that handguns are inherently evil. This tactic is constantly used by those who would infringe on the rights of law-abiding citizens in the pursuit of the many legitimate practical, recreational, and symbolic uses of handguns.

In my opinion the space used by this unfortunate item could have been much better used had it been dedicated to the spread of Christianity.

Paul White
Moselle

Retreat facilities Galilee retreat

Editor:

I noticed that Galilee Retreat of Panama City Beach, Fla., has an ad in the Baptist Record each week. The youth from our church went to Galilee Retreat June 1-4. Though they had a good time, we were misled concerning the facilities. Before any church group goes, I suggest they check out the place carefully. When we were there it was still "under construction."

Avery Jones
Siloam Baptist Church
West Point, Miss.

Mississippians are elected

A number of Mississippians were elected to boards and committees during SBC sessions in Atlanta. They include Liston Morris, First Church, Columbia, to the Home Mission Board; Gerald Harris, Colonial Heights Church, Jackson, to the Sunday School Board; William Vernon May Sr., First Church, Madison, to New Orleans Seminary; Harold Kitchings, First Church, Clinton, to the Southern Baptist Foundation; C. Frazier Landrum, Edwards Church, Edwards, to the Brotherhood Commission; Curtis Caine Sr., First Church, Jackson, to the Christian Life Commission.

Troy Land, pastor of Fellowship Church, Mendenhall, and H. Truman Stokes, Emmanuel, Greenville, a health care products company owner and farmer, were elected to the Committee on Boards for 1987. This committee nominates persons to the various agencies at the next year's convention.

Germans helping Nicaraguan Baptists

HAMBURG — The German Baptist Union's youth staff has begun raising \$10,000 for church buildings for new Nicaraguan congregations.

The effort follows exchange visits by Baptist leaders in the two countries. Fifteen-member volunteer teams from West Germany, one this year and one in 1987, will travel to Nicaragua to assist in the construction.

The German youth department also is making a Volkswagen bus available for children's and youth work in the Central American country, and German youth groups will be collecting clothing and other items for Nicaraguan congregations.

Churches in Nigeria affected by choice of new capital

ABUJA, Nigeria (EP) — The processes involved in relocating Nigeria's capital from Lagos on the coast to Abuja, 700 miles inland, have forced evangelical churches to reapply for registration of their properties.

The Evangelical Churches of West Africa have to seek registration for 136 properties. "These churches have been in the area for many years," explains ECWA President Nathaniel Olutimayin.



Clockwise from left around the table are John Brand, 17, Hickory Church; Mary Johnson, 18, Hickory Church; Chris Batte, 15, Rock Hill Church; Amy Flynt, 15, Rock Hill Church; and Kuyk Horne, 18, Inverness Church. (Photos by Tim Nicholas).

Youths ask questions they'd like answered

By Tim Nicholas

Look, adults, over on the far side of that chasm. Isn't that a vaguely familiar group? Aren't they — why, yes! They are YOUNG PEOPLE! And the chasm is only the generation gap.

The Baptist Record traveled over that gap recently to bring a message from some of those young people. It's a message basically, that, they're doing okay and will get in direct contact with adults in only a few years.

Meantime, this is what some of them have to say. They volunteered to talk to the Baptist Record in a group during a break at the first Youth Conference at Gulfshore this summer. They are Mary Johnson, 18, a member of Hickory Church; Kuyk Horne, 18, a member of Inverness Church; Chris Batte, 15, a member of Rock Hill, Covington County; John Brand, 17, a member at Hickory; and Amy Flynt, 16, a member at Rock Hill.

Asked what kind of sermon they would like to hear from a preacher, one said no one had ever asked them before. (Neither had this Baptist Record representative.) Amy said she'd like to hear about the Second Coming. "I don't really understand it — how the world's going to end."

Mary said she'd like to hear more about the Trinity. "How can one thing be one and also be three things?" she asked. Amy said that such topics preachers usually avoid, "and when they do preach, they speak in riddles." Mary added that preachers usually speak "to older people."

Concerning the most important thing in their lives, most answered what they might think they were expected to answer — that God is the most important thing. One did answer that friends were most important. But these youths were at a youth conference when they didn't have to be.

Chris said God comes first. "He put us on this earth and when you've got a problem, you can always turn to him — sometimes friends or parents wouldn't know how to answer."

Most of the youths seem to like themselves. Amy said that she likes herself "sometimes. There is always somebody else I would like to look like — like (having) their hair." She added "Your friends have a lot to do, with how you like yourselves — how they treat you."

Most of the youths noted that their parents worry too much about them, but that they are helpful around the house. Kuyk said her parents would

say she was at her worst with her folks when they were "trying to communicate with me — sometimes I don't want to talk to them." Amy said that being the baby of the family means when she leaves for college, her parents "might get lonely."

The best and worst about being a teenager were pretty much the same for this group. Amy said the worst thing was "not being accepted by your friends," as did Kuyk and Chris. John and Mary called the worst thing "peer pressure." Amy said the best thing about being a teenager is that you have "got it so easy — you don't have to do anything now." "Being carefree," was Kuyk's way of putting it. Mary said, "all the free time," was the best.

Looking ahead to being an adult, Amy said the worst was "thinking I'm going to fail at something." Kuyk said it was in making major decisions. And Chris said it would be "leaving home . . . all your remembrances." The best thing about being an adult, was "not having to mind your parents," said one who shall remain anonymous.

Biggest problem seemed to be relating to peer pressure. How to handle it? "People have seen the way you act. Say, no — that's all it takes. They don't ask you any more," said one. Another said "I just say, no or make an excuse like 'I don't feel good.'" "Don't associate with them. If they're really your friends, they won't pressure you," said another.

And given a chance to speak directly to all the readers of the Baptist Record, a couple of the youths had something to say.

"A lot of adult people today think youth are so crazy," said Amy. "Getting into drinking and drugs. They're not all like that. They're crazy, but they (adults) were too when they were young."

She added, "This is the best time of our life. Try to understand us and not let the generation gap come between us."

Kuyk said that grownups need to listen. "We don't think they understand us."

John said that instead of punishing for infractions, "they should talk it out instead."

Chris said adults "should help the youth. If they see them doing wrong, remind them God loves them."

And Mary capped it off. "A lot of

(Continued on page 11)

Faces And Places

by anne washburn mcwilliams

"Land that I love"

No roads lead to Juneau, Alaska. You have to fly in or float in. After Alaska Airlines dropped me off there last week for a two-day vacation, I could say I'd visited 49 of the 50 states. (Actually, I'm cheating to say I've been to Idaho, for I went through it one night on a train, while I was asleep.) The one I've missed altogether is South Dakota.

There's a story I've read about a West Virginia mountain lady whose family gave her a trip to New York City. On her return she was asked, "Aunt Annie, what did you think of New York?" Her answer: "Oh, all right. But so far from anywhere."

Juneau is gorgeous. I liked its tall, snow-covered mountains, its spruce forests rising up so high behind the little city that still keeps its flavor of pioneer days, its Governor's Mansion with a totem pole beside the entrance, its Gastineau Channel where the cruiseboats dock daily, its blue-iced glacier, its eagles and forget-me-nots. But it is too far from anywhere.

For the Fourth of July, W. D. and I plan to be at Mama's house in Alabama. "We wave our flags and sing our rousing anthems and offer tributes to our founding fathers," wrote Celestine Sibley in the Atlanta Journal. "Each of us perhaps celebrates his own small chunk of America." I think I will be content to celebrate in the place I first called home.

I have ridden in Grandpa's buggy down a country lane in Alabama and bumped in Daddy's two-mule wagon on top of a load of corn.

I have walked in the ruts of the old Natchez Trace and fished beneath the willows at Lake Chotard.

I have watched children collect shells on Ship Island, and I have fed peanuts to the squirrels on my patio in Clinton.

I have crossed the Mississippi River on a ferry, and camped by a lake in a park called Tishomingo.

Mississippi is home now and I love it, but I'd like to take all of America, on its 210th birthday, and hold it in a gigantic embrace. I think it would be fantastic to be in New York on the Fourth of July amid the festivities around the Statue of Liberty.

I have climbed the Statue of Liberty in the New York harbor and touched the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia and stood before the statue of Abraham Lincoln in Washington, D.C.

I have slept in a pullman to Chicago, been frightened out of my wits on a roller coaster at the Texas State Fair, and floated in an inner tube down a crystal river in Florida.

By cog railway I have reached the summit of Pike's Peak. I have ridden a cable car in San Francisco and a canoe at Ridgecrest, North Carolina. I have tasted salmon in Seattle and crawfish in Baton Rouge.

I have watched the sun rise over the

Atlantic at Jekyll Island, Georgia, and set over the Olympic Mountains in Washington. I have crossed Lake Michigan by boat at night, and the deserts of Nevada and California in a car with no air-conditioning.

I have stood on the rim of the Grand Canyon, and I have felt the misty spray of Niagara. I have photographed the wheatfields of Kansas and the red barns of Vermont and the golden leaves of a Kentucky autumn.

I have smelled the roses of Portland, Oregon, and dipped my toes into the cold waters of Lake Superior. I have floated on the waves at Waikiki.

I have flown above the clouds, and I have changed planes in Atlanta. I have looked down from the sky at the Great Salt Lake, and at the skyscrapers of New York City.

I have watched a baseball game in Kansas City and a football game at Auburn, and I have ridden a bicycle on the streets of Marion, Alabama.

I've been to a Hemisfair at San Antonio and a World's Fair in New Orleans.

I have written 488 columns, and I have entered "The Little Brown Church in the Wildwood" and I have sat in the prayer garden at Ridgecrest, praise to God overflowing from my heart.

On the radio I have heard Kate Smith sing, "God Bless America, land that I love."

SCRAPBOOK



The Statue of Liberty

High above her crown, circling New York City, I saw Lady Liberty for the first time in 1969.

Her 305 foot one inch torch seemed an air controller's guiding light for Delta's holding pattern.

The sight of her 450,000 pound physique quickly made my adrenalin push up hundreds of sheer delightful patriotic goosebumps.

Later in the week I paid a five-cent fare to cruise

New York harbor; my eyes in vertical close-ups were awe struck as I heard the message of her silent lips. I joined her with a silent prayer of thanksgiving to God for France's gift to us,

"Liberty Enlightening the World."

standing gracefully on our shore beckoning the tired, the poor, and masses yearning to breathe free within our golden doors.

To me this proud lady means repousee, a process by which she was made, meaning, "mold to shape."

I am grateful she is a beacon for liberty, a beacon for friendship, a beacon for homeless huddled masses, a beacon for visitors, and a beacon to all whom she has molded and shaped under our free form of government in this great United States of America.

—Sarah Peugh
Aberdeen

A prayer for our country

Lord God of Heaven, who hath so lavishly blessed this land, make us, Thy people, to be humble, Keep us ever aware that the good things we enjoy have come from Thee, that Thou didst lend them to us.

Impress upon our smugness the

knowledge that we are not owners — but stewards; remind us, lest we become filled with conceit, that one day a reckoning will be required of us.

Sanctify our love of country, that our boasting may be turned into

humility and our pride into a ministry to men everywhere.

Help us to make this God's own country, by living like God's own people. Amen.

—Peter Marshall

Preacher, 2/3 as old as SBC, interviewed in Atlanta

ATLANTA — In the long scheme of things, the second battle of Atlanta is just another squabble to messenger Carl Joseph Olander of Meridian, Miss.

Olander, who is two-thirds as old as the SBC, believes the best things in life are worth fighting for. The 91-year-old retired chaplain and pastor has a string of victories to his credit that were won by hard-fought battles based on long-held convictions.

The Mississippi native, who was in Atlanta to receive a certificate of appreciation from the Home Mission Board's chaplaincy division, reflected on decades of Baptist in-fighting.

Leaning on his walking cane, Olander said, "I pray the confusion, criticism, misunderstanding, and bickering can be used by the Lord to rally Southern Baptists to redouble efforts for the Lord. As far as God's Word is concerned, I think we're together."

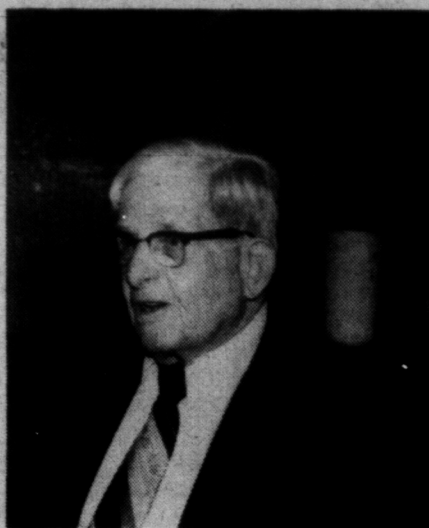
Addressing the controversial women in ministry issue, Olander said, "The Lord has done more for women than anyone else. My mother never wanted to preach (in the church), but she sure did a lot of it at home. I think more women need to do that."

Olander admitted that Mississippi is "probably not ready for lady preachers, but I'll let the Lord settle that. If a lady feels called to preach and a local church wants to call her, I'm not going to fight. It's a local church matter."

"Besides," he continued. "Some of 'em might be better than the men."

One of Olander's most public fights was for the creation of a retirement plan for pastors in Mississippi.

"The secretary of missions was against me. He kept saying 'Trust the Lord.' Well, I trust the Lord, but I trusted him to give me common sense, too."



C. J. Olander

It took two years, but Olander was able to get the annuity program passed. He still holds policy number one.

"It was a conviction," he said.

Olander was honored by the Home Mission Board chaplaincy division as "one of the youngest chaplains in World War I."

Through more than 70 years of "doing the Lord's work," Olander has decided that "if God calls you, you better answer," even if you don't understand it all.

Retirement planning: pound of prevention

(Continued from page 2)

that costs \$1 today will cost \$5.52 in 35 years.

The exact amount of your benefit will depend on your unique circumstances, such as age at retirement and the type of benefit you choose; but one thing is sure for everyone: the earlier you enroll in the Church Annuity Plan, the better.

Many churches encourage pastors and staff to participate in the plan by providing at least a portion of the monthly contributions. Some churches match personal contributions dollar-for-dollar.

This method of partnership means that 10 percent of a minister's compensation can be contributed but only 5 percent will be reduced from his salary.

Contributions your church pays are automatically tax-sheltered. For your contributions to be tax-sheltered, you must sign a legally-binding "salary reduction agreement," which instructs your church to reduce your salary by the amount of your contribution. Your church then sends the money directly to the Annuity Board for crediting to your retirement income account.

In addition to tax benefits, other features make the Church Annuity Plan an attractive retirement investment.

Generally, you can contribute one-sixth of your gross income to your account. IRA contributions cannot exceed \$2,000 a year.

Also, state convention contributions to the Church Annuity Plan provide disability and survivor benefits for ordained ministers. As a rule, IRAs don't provide disability and survivor benefits.

An expanded Church Annuity Plan available in 1988 will offer disability and survivor benefits to lay church employees in some states and will also actively involve entire congregations in its adoption.

The plan encourages churches to be responsibly involved in helping pastors and staff members plan for retirement. By adopting the plan as a matter of policy, churches make a commitment to their ministers' future by agreeing to match contributions two-to-one.

But don't delay joining the Church Annuity Plan until 1988. The earlier you begin, the longer your account can grow.

To join the Church Annuity Plan, you and an officer of your church must complete an application, which is available from the annuity representative in your state convention or from the Annuity Board. The application must then be reviewed and approved by the annuity representative or the state convention executive.

To learn more about the Church Annuity Plan, contact the annuity representative in your state convention or write the Annuity Board, 511 North Akard, Dallas, TX 75201.

Carey to launch soccer program

GULFPORT — A varsity soccer program will be launched this fall at William Carey College on the Coast in Gulfport. This will be the only four-year college intercollegiate athletic program on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Carey's soccer team will compete in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and will play teams such as South Alabama, Millsaps, Belhaven, Nicholls State, Huntingdon, and Tulane. Athletic director Bobby Halford also indicates that he would be interested in scheduling games with soccer clubs from the University of Southern Mississippi, Mississippi State University, and Eckerd College.

Construction on the field has begun, with an appropriate area already reserved on the coast campus. Soccer scholarships will be offered.

Anyone interested in this new soccer program or the college in general may contact Halford, William Carey College, Tuscan Avenue, Hattiesburg, Miss 39401 — (601) 582-6110; or Joe Moore, director of business affairs, Carey on the Coast, 1856 Beach Drive, Gulfport, Miss. 39501 — (601) 865-1500.

Homecomings

Mt. Nebo, Collinsville (Newton): held its annual homecoming Memorial Day, June 22; Herman Pilgrim was master of ceremonies for the afternoon services, and David Sellers brought the message; lunch was served; Michael Truhett, pastor.

Corinth Church, Heidelberg: homecoming and old fashion day; July 6; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; preaching, 11 a.m.; followed by dinner on the ground; after dinner the choir will present a cantata, "Singing Thru Life," directed by Mrs. Wilma Holloman; Edd Holloman, pastor.

Shubuta Church, Shubuta: June 29; Robert Earl Shirley, 11 a.m. message; offering of the day will go toward restoration of windows.

Chaplaincy division honors Olander, WWI chaplain

Carl Joseph Olander of Meridian received a Certificate of Appreciation during the Southern Baptist Convention Chaplains' Breakfast June 11 at the Ramada Hotel Capitol Plaza in Atlanta, Ga.

Huey D. Perry, director, chaplaincy division, Home Mission Board, made the presentation. William G. Tanner, president, Home Mission Board, was guest speaker. Olander led in the benediction.

C. J. Olander, 91, was one of the youngest chaplains to serve in the U.S. Armed Services during World War I. It is thought that he may be the "last one still around," who served as chaplain during that war. He had overseas orders and was in Jackson telling friends goodbye when the Armistice was signed. Consequently, he

at age 24 was ordered to Camp Shelby as chief chaplain of the base hospital.

Some years later, in 1968-69, he was elected national chaplain of the American Legion, the first Mississippian to hold that post. He recalls, "We entertained the Congress of the USA in Washington, D.C." Over 3,000 were present in two large banquet halls. Olander led the invocation, which was recorded in the Congressional Record.

While in Atlanta for the SBC, Olander also attended the luncheon of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Alumni Association. He was the only person present from the Class of 1921. He received his master of theology degree from Southern Seminary that year. Two of his sons, John and Dan, attended both this meeting and the chaplaincy breakfast with him.



Wynndale dedicates education building

Wynndale Church, Springridge Road, Hinds County, dedicated its new education building, June 8. Dedication services began at the morning worship hour, led by the pastor, Charles Gentry. Immediately following a ribbon cutting was held in front of the new building. The congregation and pastor read responsively a dedication commitment. Special guest was Clarence Cutrell who led the church in a Together We Build

program.

Pictured, left to right, are members of the building committee and interior decorating committee, Richard White, Mary Joyce Shelton, Paula Garrard, Bert Fitzhugh, Jo Bridgers, chairman of the interior decorating committee, Lew Davis, Bill Bowers, chairman of the building committee, Ruby Smith, Jere Little, Adria Gunter, Eddie Bingham, and Gentry.

ATHLETES ALIVE will air in Meridian

ATHLETES ALIVE will air on WTOK Channel 11 (Cable-Channel 6) in Meridian, on Sunday, June 29, at 5 p.m.

This program produced by Ken Anderson of Capitol Productions, will interview "Pistol" Pete

Maravich and Leslie Frasier (Leslie-Chicago Bears). They will share their Christian testimonies.

Sponsors are the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and Mississippi Valley Gas.

Your church can join us for
CHILDREN'S CAMP
for 1 - 6th graders
AUGUST 4-8

Roosevelt State Park
HIGHLAND BAPTIST
CHURCH, LAUREL
Leslie Williams, Camp director
Call (601) 428-8493

OLD BIBLES REBOUND

A price, binding and style to meet every need. Quality workmanship guaranteed. Write for illustrated price folder.

"Internationally known specialists"
NORRIS BOOKBINDING CO.
Box 305-C — Greenwood, Miss. 38930

Pews, pulpits, baptistries,
stained glass, carpet,
steeples, chairs,
tables, lighting,
folding doors

Van Winkle Church
Furnishings &
Pew Upholstery

Box 501, Fulton, MS. 38843
In MS. Toll Free 1-800-624-9627
Design—Construction Management

We Remodel & Paint

Savell challenges SBC to interfaith witness

WASHINGTON (BP) — Southern Baptists were challenged to take seriously the responsibility of sharing their faith with people of other religious backgrounds and to be open to dialogue with persons of other religious groups.

Carl Savell, director of the interfaith witness department of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, outlined his dreams for the future during a national conference for Southern Baptist state and regional interfaith witness coordinators.

"Dreaming is dangerous and hazardous," said Savell. He observed that the famous "I Have a Dream" address by Martin Luther King in the same city 23 years earlier ultimately cost King his life.

Savell said he dreamed of the day when Southern Baptists' program of interfaith witness is elevated in visibility, structure, and relationship both within the denomination and within the pluralism of world religions.

Savell said he also dreams of a day when "dialogue" is not a bad word among Southern Baptists.

He urged Baptists who have negative feelings about Southern Baptists holding dialogues with persons of other religious groups to attend such a dialogue and "try it."

"Nobody," said the former Mississippi pastor, "is more committed to witnessing than I am; but within the context of interfaith witness, without dialogue we are dead."

Dialogue with others helps Baptists to better understand "who we are and what we believe," he added. "To proudly express our theology to others, we have to dream."

Savell said a major goal of his department is to train 2,000 Southern Baptist people as "interfaith witness associates" and lead them in conducting 4,000 Interfaith Witness Awareness Training Conferences each year. These conferences provide 8-16 hours of intensive training to teach Baptists how to share their faith with people of specific religious groups, such as Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, Muslims, Jews, and members of cults.

In another major address, Wendell Belew, director of missions ministries for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, urged Baptists to get out of their cloistered churches and go into the world of people of other religions to share what Baptists believe.

About 40 regional and state coordinators involved in Southern Baptist interfaith witness attended the national conference sponsored by the SBC Home Mission Board at First Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.



MISSISSIPPI DUET IN WASHINGTON: Carl Savell (left), director of the interfaith witness department for the Home Mission Board, sings an impromptu duet with Cindy Malone, minister of youth and singles at Woodville Heights Church, Jackson, as entertainment during the 1986 National Conference of State Interfaith Witness Coordinators sponsored by the Home Mission Board recently in Washington, D.C. Savell, former pastor of Woodville Heights Church, was responsible for the conference and challenged Baptists in the keynote address to take seriously the responsibility for sharing their faith with people of other religious backgrounds. Miss Malone, a former Miss Jackson, led the devotional periods for the conference and provided entertainment. Also attending the conference from Mississippi were Mr. and Mrs. Hollis Bryant. Bryant has responsibility for interfaith witness in Mississippi. (HMB photo by Jim Newton)

Churches adopt '88 expanded annuity plan

The following churches have adopted the Expanded Annuity Plan of 1988 since those reported in the May 22 issue of the Baptist Record:

Adams: Immanuel; Alcorn: West Corinth; Carroll-Montgomery: Hebron; Clarke: Rolling Creek; Covington: Salem; Gulf Coast: FBC McHenry; Hinds-Madison: Bolton, Highland, Robinson Street; Lamar: Faith; Lauderdale: Arrowwood, Eastview; Lawrence, New Hebron; Lincoln: Easthaven; Marion: Pine Burr; Newton: Mt. Vernon, Sulphur Springs; North Delta: Lula; Noxubee: FBC Macon, Pearl River: FBC Poplarville, Gum Pond; Pontotoc: Randolph; Scott: Liberty; Sunflower: Drew; Tishomingo: Highland; Warren: Grace, Immanuel; Washington: Swiftwater; Webster: Walthall; Yalobusha: Wayside.

Missionary News

Curtis and Deanie Ferrell, missionaries to Ecuador, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Casilla 328, Cuenca, Ecuador).

Donald and Rose McCain, missionaries to Portugal, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Celula 5, Lote 5, Predio D, 1-E, Carnaxide, 2795 Linda-A-Velha, Portugal).

Bill and Barbara Moseley, missionaries to Brazil, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Rua Senador Simonsen, 42/201, Jordim Botanico, 22461 Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil).

John and Sarah Perkins, missionaries to France, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 715 E. Northside Dr., Jackson, Miss. 39206). He was born in Montgomery, Ala. The former Sarah Grant, she was born in McComb, Miss.

Call for Free BROCHURE **BAPTISTRIES HEATERS, PUMPS FACTORY DIRECT**
TOLL FREE 1-800-251-0679
TN CALL COLLECT 615-875-0679
FIBERGLASS BAPTISTRY CO
3511 HIXSON PIKE • CHATTANOOGA, TN 37415



GALILEE RETREAT

Specializing in spiritual emphasis the Galilee Retreat is the premier Christian Retreat on the Gulf Coast.

Located in Panama City Beach, directly on the Gulf of Mexico, the Galilee provides for all your needs including 3 great meals a day and all your linens and towels for your comfort.

For information & reservations call or write:

GALILEE RETREAT
17704 W. Al. Hwy 90 W.
Panama City Beach, FL 32407
(904) 234-5100 / 700-5000

Devotional Setting the record straight

By Dan Thompson

In John 14:2 Jesus makes a statement that reminds us of a common practice, namely, "setting the record straight." He was talking to the disciples about going away and about their hope for the future. He said, "If it were not so, I would have told you." He seems to be saying that if this hope of yours was false I would have pointed it out to you. I would have set the record straight. Two things seem to be involved in setting the record straight:

I. Correcting false impressions where information and facts have been twisted and misinterpreted. Jesus did this quite often, and some instances come to mind.

ABOUT SALVATION: When some who seemed to feel comfortable and secure spoke to him about the horrible death the Galileans suffered when Pilate mingled their blood with their sacrifices, Jesus reminded them that "except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." When Nicodemus came to Jesus obviously confused about salvation, Jesus said, "Except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

ABOUT WITNESSING: Jesus said to the disciple, "Say not there are yet three months and then cometh harvest. But I say unto you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields for they are white already unto harvest."

ABOUT RESURRECTION: The Sadducees denied that there was a resurrection of the dead and asked Jesus a question that they thought would trap him. He responded by saying, "For he is not a God of the dead, but of the living. For all live unto him."

ABOUT THE SABBATH: The Pharisees were quick to remind Jesus that the disciples had broken the law when they plucked ears of corn to eat on the sabbath. Jesus responded, saying, "The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath."

ABOUT LOVE: "Ye have heard that it hath been said, love thy neighbor and hate thine enemy, but I say unto you, 'Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.'"

II. Acknowledging a position. Jesus was quick to set the record straight about himself on a number of occasions. To the Samaritan woman when she talked about Messiah's coming he said, "I that speak unto thee am he." To the questioning Jews at the feast of dedication Jesus said, "I and my Father are one." He made it clear who he was and what his mission and purpose were in the world. We too, as Christians, need to set the record straight about who we are and where we stand.

Dan Thompson is pastor, Harperville Church, Harperville.

Athens Three are found innocent of proselytism

ATHENS, Greece (EP) — After two-and-a-half hours of deliberation by a three-man panel of judges, American Don Stephens and his two associates, Alan Williams and Costas Macris, were declared innocent May 27 in their appeal of a prior three-and-a-half year prison sentence on charges of proselytism.

The verdict came as the culmination of a four-day appeal trial. The gift of a Bible to 16-year-old Kostas Kotopoulos in 1981 led to the charges filed by the boy's mother in 1984, accusing the foreign missionaries of proselytizing her son, a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. However, in the appeal trial a judge stated that they could "find no evidence that anything different from that advocated by the Greek Orthodox Church" was shared with the boy by the missionaries.

The witnesses for the defense at the appeal included Dr. John Warwick Montgomery, Dean of the Greenleaf School of Law in California, recognized as one of the world's foremost experts in the area of human rights, and a Greek Minister of Parliament, Ms. Tsotherou. In challenging the Greek law under which the three men were

sentenced, Tsotherou declared, "It's embarrassing to us and we must change it. If you bring down a guilty sentence on these men because of this law, it will be a shameful day for Greece."

Over the last 18 months, the pending appeal drew wide international attention. In the United States, members of congress, including Robert Dornan, Mark Siljander and Glen Anderson, were active in support of Stephens and associates. California Gov. George Deukmejian and Sen. Newton Russell both expressed their "deep concern" about the proselytism conviction. Over 400,000 Americans, and thousands more internationally, signed petitions to Greek President Sartzetakis Christos, urged him to "take whatever action necessary to remedy the situation."

The acquittal of the three men represents "a major breakthrough on behalf of religious freedom for minority religious groups in Greece," says Macris, the Greek pastor also acquitted. "It sets precedent that the handing out of Bibles can no longer be construed as an illegal means of proselytism."

Mississippi Baptist activities

June 27-28 GA Grandmother/Granddaughter Weekend; Camp Garaywa; 4 p.m., 27th-Noon, 28th (WMU)

Thursday, June 26, 1986

Just for the Record



Red Creek Union Church, Jackson County, recently held a three day revival. Kenny Goff, Four Mile Creek, was evangelist. One was saved. Sunday, June 1, was "old timer's day," with dinner on the grounds, and singing in the afternoon. The church welcomed its new pastor, P. S. Gardner, and his wife, Polly.

Pictured, left to right, are Mrs. Maxine Smith, Mrs. Gladys Flurry, B. B. Parker, and Mrs. Leona Kates.

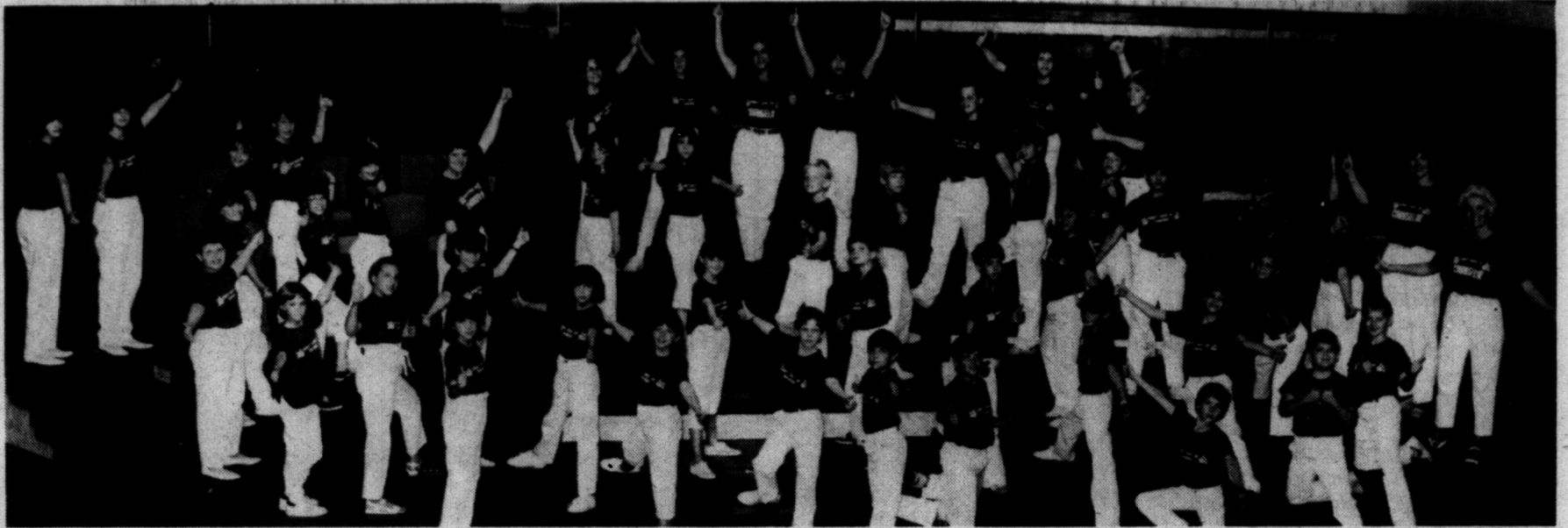
1st, Lumberton, will celebrate centennial on Sunday, July 20

First Church, Lumberton, will on July 20, celebrate its 100th anniversary. Services will begin at 10 a.m. and continue until the noon time dinner-on-the-grounds. Then the afternoon service will begin at 2.

First Church, Lumberton, was organized in 1886 with 15 members. Located near the present town water works, a one-room wooden structure served as worship area for both Baptists and Methodists. That same year the church joined the Red Creek Baptist Association. Six years later they joined the Lebanon Association as a charter member.

In 1903, the first pastorium was built. Membership rose and fell as lumber mill growth and decline took place. In 1925, the members decided to build a new brick structure with a basement. This building was dedicated on December 7, 1926.

In 1934, a fire in the basement of the



The Young Musician Choir, First Church, Laurel, presented the musical, "Don't Give Up!!" April 20. They shared the same musical at "Day in the Park," an annual event in Laurel. Jan Sellers and Sue Walker are directors of the group and Billy Vaughan is minister of music.

Corinth Church Heidelberg: Vacation Bible School; June 2 - 6 enrollment of 120, with a daily average of 92; one profession of faith; Marion Valentine, superintendent; Edd Holloman, pastor.

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP) — The Roman Catholic Church is \$2.1 billion short of needed funds to finance retirement programs for nuns, according to a newly-released study by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.



Thirty-six GAs earned Missions Adventures badges at **First Church, Quitman (Clarke).** Pictured (left to right) front row, are Rachel Dabbs, Christi Jones, Kelley Wright, Courtney Riley, Lori Armour, Brandi Priester, Emily Baggett, Suzanne Rigdon, Tina McClure, and Angie Redmond. Second row, Laura Patton, Lennie Young, Rebecca Rowell,

Ashley Carr, Renee Dabbs, Melanie Zeigler, Elise Sistrunk, Kelly Johnson, Christina Cochran. Third row, Lynn Boykin, Jennifer Wright, Lynn Armour, Amy Carr, Ashley Riley, Tonia Carney, Margaret McClure, Elizabeth Carter.

(Not pictured) Natalie Dabbs, Jennifer Clark, Erica Combest, Johni Brock, April

Davis, Shannon Byrd, Kristie Carter, Emilie Miller, Kym Carter.

GA leaders include Julie Rowell, Kimberly Whitaker, Janice Redmond, Joye Jones, Brenda Carter, Carol Ivy, Trish Sistrunk, Millie Zeigler, C. J. Patton, Verlynn Robinson, and Dianne Sellers.

Pastors, lay people sought for crusades in Indonesia

RICHMOND, Va. — Missionaries in Indonesia are seeking 11 Southern Baptist pastors and 25 to 30 lay people to help Baptist churches throughout the nation this summer.

The volunteers will form pastor-led teams and go with Indonesian Baptists to witness in homes, businesses and schools. For eight days volunteers will share their testimonies in the morning and afternoon. They also will participate in evening services. Other days will be spent in travel, orientation and some recreation.

Indonesia, a string of islands separating the South Pacific from the Indian oceans, is one of the world's more responsive Muslim nations to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Teams are needed for crusades July 7-22, July 28-Aug. 12, or Sept. 1-16. Men and women, and youth in 11th grade and older, may participate. Volunteers must pay their own expenses.

Those interested should contact the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board at (804) 353-0151 and ask for the volunteer enlistment department.

An I For an I

"I won't" is a tramp.
"I can't" is a quitter.
"I don't know" is lazy.
"I might" is waking up.

"I will try" is on his feet.
"I can" is on his way.
"I will" is at work.
"I did" is now the BOSS.



Acteens of Immanuel Church have raised money and had money donated to buy a new VCR for their church media center.

Pictured from left are Cristi Cole, Tonya Osborn, Kim T aylor, Jessica Shifalo, Elizabeth Backus, Barbara Keaster, leader, Donna Cole, director, Kristi Cole, Cheryl Owen, librarian, Amy Shifalo, and Becky Shelton, leader. George G. Aultman is pastor.



RAs of the E. C. Farr Chapter of Washington Association, sponsored by Second Church, Greenville, helped in the People Search for the "Good News America," simultaneous revivals. The RAs assisted the adults in giving out Bibles.

Pictured, left to right, top row, are Chris Vaughn, Kelly Watts, Randy Cole, counselor Mac Mooney, Trace Scrivener, Jamie Banks, James Hardin. Bottom row, Adam Norris, Todd Ervin, David Cole, Clint Scrivener, Matt Scrivener, Shawn Thomas, Chris Hovis. (Not pictured) Chris Watford, and Bubba Hardin, counselors, and J. H. Kerr, director.

CLASSIFIED

RATE 50¢ per word. \$3.00 minimum. Cash with order, except on contract advertising. Include name, address, zip code, and phone number in word count. No blind ads.

FOR SALE used RODGERS ORGAN \$2,000.00. Briarwood Drive Baptist Church, Jackson, MS Phone (601) 956-4561 between 8:30-5:00.

APARTMENT FOR RENT, Ridgecrest, NC. Walk to conference center. Sleeps six. (704) 669-6916. \$250.00 per week.

CAMP AGAPE' — Several members of Highland Baptist Church, Laurel have recently opened a Christian RETREAT and CAMP facility near Taylorsville. It's located on 88 beautiful acres with spring-fed lake/water front on Leaf River. Includes fully equipped dining hall, cabins for 40, modern bath house. Church groups may rent camp for \$5.00 per person per day. Contact Stan Hoven at (601) 649-0444, or Cleo Kerns, 425-3019.

CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, CAMPERs: Used school buses, 60 passenger, Ford, Dodge, International, Chevrolet. 1973 to 1975 year models. First come, first served. Buses maintained and operated in daily service by East Baton Rouge Parish school system. Priced from \$2400.00 to \$3300.00 — Shapiro International Trucks, Inc., 8008 Airline Hwy., Baton Rouge, LA 70815; telephone (504) 923-3450.

Bible school children give 15,000 pennies to missionary

Belinda Warren, left, Vacation Bible School director at Highland Church, Senatobia, presented Mary Bradbury, right, with 15,000 pennies collected for missions during Vacation Bible School. Each day after the mission story, Ken Pegram, pastor, would challenge the boys and girls to give their pennies to help a missionary. Bradbury did not realize she was to be that missionary until presented the wagon full of pennies during commencement service.

Having already served as a volunteer missionary to Ohio the past two summers and as hostess at Glorieta, N.M. for three summers, Bradbury will be going with 40 others from the Northwest Association to Billings, Mont. for two weeks this summer. She will be conducting Back Yard Bible Clubs and doing surveys.

At 75, she says her only regret is that she did not have the opportunity to start summer missions sooner.

Book Reviews

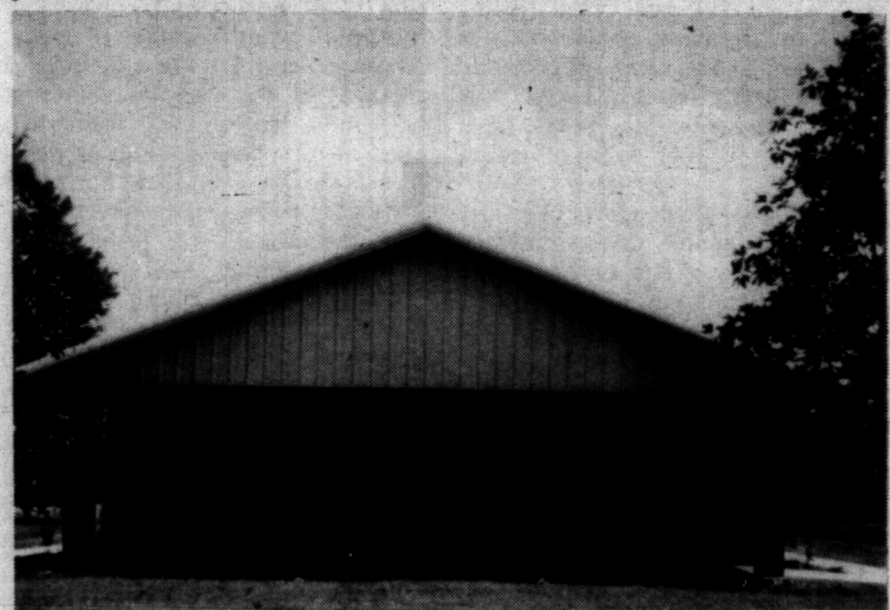
OFF THE MAIN ROAD by Jerry W. Mixon (Broadman Press, 120 pp.)

The pastor of First Church, Winona, is author of this refreshing and challenging book. Mixon draws spiritual truths from his childhood and youth days in Lakeview, Petal, and Hattiesburg, Mississippi. As the book jacket promises, "You can almost smell the freshly plowed ground and the blossoms of dogwood trees mixed with the flavor of country cooking."

Many of the chapter titles mention country experiences — "Trading Away My Soft Drink," "Don't Play with Snakes," "Scooping Up Mayhaws," "Syrup Bucket Lunch," "Saturday Night with Granddad," "A Walk Through the Woods," etc. Mixon's word pictures are vivid. His underlying lessons are clear. In the introduction, J. Ralph Noonkester, president of William Carey College,

says, "While revealing something of his personality to us, Mixon also uses familiar symbols to communicate to the reader the importance of a Christian commitment that is personal in its nature and rural in the simplicity of the faith. Thus, the seemingly eternal truths of rural living are made to point toward a greater and more lasting truth."

In a review in the *Christian Bookseller*, Gloria Hinduja writes, "Drawing from experiences from his own life, Mixon shares his encounters with God in everyday living. God wants to reveal himself to us through everything that comes our way, not just on Sundays at church. We can see him if we look earnestly. Mixon shares with us the times he saw God in his rural childhood, teenage years and even his adult days in nature, people, games, and family living." Highly recommended reading. — AWM



Wanilla to dedicate sanctuary

Wanilla Church, Lawrence County, has completed its new sanctuary and a Day of Dedication is planned for June 29. There will be a morning service, a noon meal and an afternoon service.

The sanctuary was built almost entirely by church members and is debt free. The building committee members were Billy Joe Boutwell, chairman, John Robert Beasley, William L. Beasley, Odell Boyles, Robert C. Lea, Alton Letchworth and Joey Riley. Jody Lightsey is pastor.

Pray and Roddy will be musicians at Glorieta

Dot Pray of Jackson, keyboard specialist for the Mississippi Baptist Church Music Department and organist at Colonial Heights Church, Jackson, will be serving on the faculty for Church Music Leadership Week I July 6 to 11 at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center in New Mexico.

She will serve as pianist for the conference and will teach a class for pianists.

Steve Roddy, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Roddy of Dallas, will be the organist. Steve Roddy was growing up in Jackson when his father was minister of education at First Church, Jackson. David Roddy is now on the staff of First Church, Dallas.

While in Taejon, Korea, Williams visited the Baptist seminary, and had breakfast with missionaries McDaniels, Jerry White, and Lee Nichols.



Names in the News

Center Ridge Church, Yazoo City, held a special dedication service, June 4, for Benita Johnson.



Johnson

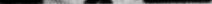
Benita, a student at the University of Alabama, is working as a summer missionary in Atlantic City, N.J. H. Bryan Abel is pastor.

Mark Holmes was ordained to the ministry of the gospel, Sunday evening, June 1, at First Church, Gulfport. A reception was held afterward for him in the fellowship hall. M. Dean Register is pastor.

Pam Bell, full-time Christian entertainer and conference leader, has relocated in Baton Rouge. Miss Bell uses singing, comedy, and teaching in any type church event. She may be contacted at 3412 D Yorkfield Drive, Baton Rouge, LA. 70816. Her phone number is (504) 292-7914.

Paul Southerland was licensed to the gospel ministry by Red Lick Church. He is available for supply work and revivals, and can be reached by writing him at Rt. 1, Lorman, MS 39096, or phone 437-3628. Marlon Seaneey is pastor.

Terry Williams, pastor of Mantee Church, Mantee, preached in Korea from May 16 - June 1. He was in cooperation with the Foreign Mission Board, and the Korean Baptist Convention. Eighty-five persons were involved in the effort of preaching revivals, witnessing from house to house, and discipling the new converts. Among the group of participants were pastors, evangelists, other staff members, and several wives.



Williams

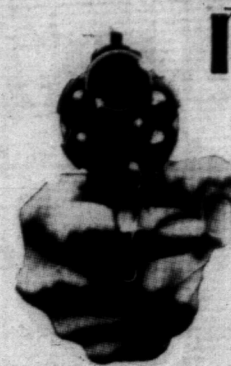
Mantee Church financed the mission trip for Williams and also the former pastor, Dave Rowson. Williams helped in the organization of two mission churches. One hundred twenty one persons made public professions of faith. He baptized 60 new converts. Mantee Church is the sister church to Kwang-tae Baptist Mission and River Baptist Mission in Anyan, Korea.

Jan Cossitt has recently begun work as youth and activities director of Raymond Church, Raymond. Sam B. Mason is pastor.

Mike Hudson has been called as the minister of music and youth for Gillsburg and is now on the church field for the summer and for weekends during seminary days. His address is Route 2, Osyka, MS 39657.

Thursday, June 26, 1986

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 11



Intensive care

*Drugs are just as deadly
as a loaded gun.
Don't take chances
with your life*

Stop on his own?

What is your opinion about an alcoholic being able to stop drinking on his own?

on his own. A person definitely needs help.

People who drink or use drugs may look for what seems the easiest technique for quitting, and, unfortunately want to follow that technique. One needs to fully appreciate the fact that it is next to impossible to stop drinking or to stop taking drugs

Questions addressed to Intensive Care are forwarded to Chaplain Joe Stovall at the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center and are handled in consultation with Dr. Ed Burchak of the staff of the Chemical Dependency Center. Inquiries should be addressed to Intensive Care, Baptist Record, Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205.

Staff Changes

Donald Cotten recently began his ministry as pastor of First Church, Louisville. He went to Louisville from Carrollton Church, Carrollton, Ala.

He is a native of Scottsboro, Ala., and a graduate of Samford University, Birmingham. He received the M.Div. from New Orleans Seminary, and the D.Min. degree from Luther Rice Seminary. Cotten participated in the Alabama/Nigeria Partnership Mission project in 1983, and the Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Partnership Mission project in 1984.

He is married to the former Dale Johnson, and they have three children: Melanie, Mary, and Jon David.

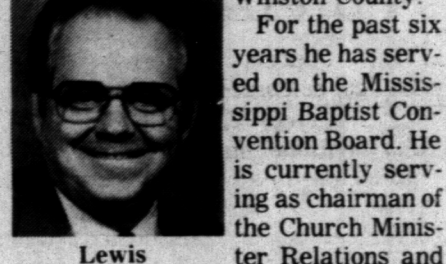
Mike Franklin, Northport, Ala., has joined the staff of First Church, Louisville, as summer minister of youth. He will graduate from Mississippi State University in August. He served as summer youth minister of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Hoensbroek, The Netherlands, in 1985, and as summer missionary to Israel in 1984. Franklin assisted in the youth ministry of First Church, Starkville, during the spring of 1985 and 1986. Donald Cotten is pastor.

Barry Worrell has accepted a position as minister of music and youth, Emmanuel Church, Grenada. He goes to Grenada from Salem Church, Collins. Worrell and his wife, Jane, have two children.

Mike Hudson has been called as the minister of music and youth for Gillsburg and is now on the church field for the summer and for weekends during seminary days. His address is Route 2, Osyka, MS 39657.

Marion Dees has resigned as pastor of Bethel Church, Louisville. He may be reached at Rt. 4, Box 215, Louisville, Miss., 39339, phone 773-3553.

James A. Lewis has resigned as pastor of Academy Church, Tippah County, to become pastor of East Louisville Church, Winston County.



Lewis

For the past six years he has served on the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. He is currently serving as chairman of the Church Minister Relations and Annuity Advisory Committee. His new address is Route 4, Box 286, Louisville, MS 39339.

Bob Mathis, pastor of New Garden Church, Northwest Association, has resigned.

Jimmy Stockwell of Tula is the new pastor of Piney Grove Church, Pontotoc County.

Courtney Selvy is the new pastor at First Church, Lambert.

Youths ask

(Continued from page 7)
adults judge all teenagers by (what they see) on television. We're not all bad, most of us are good." And for emphasis, she added, "A lot of us are really great kids."

Revival Dates

Oakland Grove, Laurel: July 6-11; 7:30 p.m. nightly; intersection of Sharon Rd. and Sandersville Rd., 4 miles north of Laurel on 22 acre hay field under a tent; LaVerne Butler, pastor; Ninth and O Church, Louisville, Ky., evangelist; Cecil Harper, music; children and youth services, 7 p.m. nightly led by Sharber and Sally Smith, gospel illusionist and ventriloquist; children's night is scheduled for Monday; youth night-Tuesday; signing for hearing impaired; Lindsey Blackledge, pastor.

Baptist Record

• Bible Book: *Deliverance and the Feast of Purim*
• Uniform: *God's tests of a true prophet*
• Life and Work: *Victory in Jesus*

Deliverance and the Feast of Purim

By Billy McKay
Esther 8:1-10:3

Introduction. It is reported that Napoleon once asked for one brief statement supporting the inspiration of the Bible. The reply given was "the Jew." Indeed the survival of the Jews under the numerous historical threats of genocide (the systematic measures of exterminating a race of people) is one of the miracles of history. Someone said, "We are immortal until our work is finished." Esther is a symbol of God's continuing action to raise up deliverers for his people. Joseph, Moses, Deborah and other judges, and Daniel are examples. The seeming coincidences of Esther turn out not to be coincidences at all but rather they heighten the sense of the Unseen but real power Who determines the entire course of events.

I. The circumstances of deliverance (8:1-14). This chapter opens with Esther being given the house of Haman, and Mordecai is given the king's ring (a symbol of authority) and is placed as custodian over the house of Haman. Despite Esther's personal victory over Haman, the royal edict against the Jews stood firm (cf. Dan. 6:8). Like Pilate, Xerxes washed his hands and gave Esther full authority as long as the decree stood.

First, in 8:1-2 we see the favored position of Mordecai.

Second, in 8:3-14 we shall see the favored plea of Esther. Here Esther successfully negotiates a second decree which gives every Jew the right to defend themselves on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month when the Jews' enemies are to be

allowed to kill all Jews in the entire Persian empire. 8:11-12 shows the exact treatment intended for the Jews is to be meted out on their enemies. The term "all the power of the people" means "armed force." The Jews were to arm themselves for the attack of the enemies. Please remember that the Persians could only kill Jesus on one day (cf. 3:13). Note in 8:15-17 the exaltation of Mordecai. 8:17 should be studied in light of Exodus 15:16 and Deuteronomy 11:25. According to 8:17b many Persians apparently felt the God of the Jews was ruling over their destiny in a particular way.

II. The campaign of deliverance (9:1-16). 9:1 indicates by the term "the enemies of the Jews" that the tribe of Haman was large! Haman was the key person in the move toward genocide. The Broadman Commen-

tary says, "history bears out that there were several such incidents of genocide against the Jews in Persia." 9:1-2 tells of the author's faith in divine providence (cf. Deut. 33:27). 9:2-5 shows that the Persian officials favored edict number two. That was because Haman was dead and Mordecai was in the driver's seat. In 9:10 Haman's 10 sons were slain. This is probably because they were obviously involved in the plot, as was the case of Achan's family in Joshua 7:24-26.

The evil spirit of Haman permeated the rest of the house. In 9:10b we learn that they took nothing. They did not do as Saul had done in I Samuel 15:3. It shows the Jews had no mercenary motives (cf. Joshua 7). 9:13 is probably explained by the fact that further danger still threatened the Jews in Shushan unless further measures were taken.

Rawlinson calls attention to the importance of 9:3 as bearing on 9:16.

That the Jews should have been allowed to slay 75,000 has been pronounced incredible, but it is not so when we consider that the leaders of the nation took their side. The probability is, however, that the slain were people of other, subject nations, for whom the Persians did not particularly care.

III. The celebration of deliverance (9:17-32). This passage gives the details of the Feast of Purim. It was a "good day" (9:19, 22) and not a "holy day" (cf. Lev. 23). "Purim" is from "Pur" which means "a lot" (cf. 3:7). The "im" is like the English "s" making it a plural. Purim thus signifies the providential turn of events in favor of the Jews which was to be commemorated by an annual celebration.

Conclusion. Proverbs 16:33 might well summarize the book of Esther: "The lot is cast into the lap, but the whole disposing thereof is of the Lord."

Billy McKay is pastor, First, Belzoni.

God's tests of a true prophet

By Gus Merritt
Jeremiah 23:9-40; 27-28

Historical background: Following Jehoiakim's death, Jehoiachin came to the throne. He reigned only three miserable months and was carried away into captivity to Babylon. Zedekiah came to the throne after Jehoiachin. Evil was rampant throughout the entire country and the leaders, both secular and priests, were to blame. There was a terrible drought which was a result of the evil in the land. The drought was a part of God's judgement.

The marks of a false prophet (23:16-17, 21-22). The false prophet has not stood in counsel with God. He speaks from a vision of his own heart and not from God. The false prophet also speaks the things he thinks people want to hear or that which will

promote his own interests. They give words of comfort and assurance to the ones who rebel against God. That is false assurance. Rather than calling the wicked to repent, they tell them they are all right. They promise good to those who despise the word of the Lord, presumably the message of Jeremiah. Peace and related blessings come only to those who hear and obey God.

These same characteristics of the false prophet described in Jeremiah are also characteristics of false prophets of every age. It is recorded in 2 Timothy 4:3, that the time would come when the people would call to themselves teachers to speak what was pleasing to them. There is a ready market for that kind of teaching and preaching. There are those in this day who are always ready to say they

think the listener wants to hear, whether it is the truth or not. So many people want to live their lives apart from the leadership of the Lord and then not want to give an account of themselves to the Lord. Therefore, they will follow whoever will excuse or condone their sins and still allow them to be "religious."

It is important for the Christian to discern what he or she hears as to whether it is the truth or not. If what is heard runs counter the Bible, there is no basis for truth in it. Each one who is interested in the truth should know what God teaches in his word. When one comes claiming to have a new revelation or truth, it should be checked against the word of God. We have a right to question the source of authority of those who come speaking, "Thus saith the Lord." God's stan-

dards of righteousness, truth, and morality have not changed. Anyone coming along and lowering these standards should be branded as a false prophet.

The false prophet goes forth when he has not been sent and speaks when he has no message from God. The false prophet, as someone has described him, is "going nowhere so fast, he is arriving out of breath, and speaking more and more about less and less." If the false prophet had stood in God's counsel, he would speak God's truth and call the people from their evil, leading them to repent (23:21-22).

Jeremiah's challenge to the false prophet, Hananiah (28:5-9, 15-16B). Nebuchadnezzar had carried away Jehoiachin and some of the people into exile. He had also carried away the vessels of the temple. Jeremiah placed a yoke upon his neck and urged the people to submit willingly to

Babylon's rule so they would not be destroyed (Jeremiah 27).

Hananiah challenged Jeremiah concerning the yoke. He issued a false prophecy saying that the Lord would break the yoke of bondage by Babylon and would return the vessels of the temple and the people who had been carried away within two years (28:2-4). Jeremiah's reply was to the effect that he hoped the words of Hananiah would come to pass. However, Jeremiah knew this would not happen. He then said that the mark of a true prophet was when what he prophesied came to pass. This is drawn from Deut. 18:22. If what was prophesied did not come to pass, the prophet was to be put to death. Jeremiah then prophesied Hananiah's death within the year. Jeremiah's prophecy came true. Hananiah died two months later.

Gus Merritt is pastor, Clarke Venable, Decatur.

Victory in Jesus

By Peter McLeod
II Thessalonians 2:1-17

A friend recently shared a statement made by a speaker at a conference she had attended: "Life is hard — and then you die." That's sobering but it's also indicative of how cynically many people, even Christians, view life in today's world. Life is hard and death is certain, but to live in a spirit of cynicism is contradictory to what the gospel is all about. It's also contradictory to the kind of hope and lifestyle that Paul has spelled out for the Thessalonians throughout this study and yet it's a problem which kept rearing its ugly head. Paul had to once again address its reality, but he also once again had to reaffirm God's involvement and purpose in our world and in our lives.

(1) Evil is real (vs. 1-12)

This is a difficult passage and scholars have debated its meaning and implications for centuries. When all is said and done, however, no one really knows all that Paul was saying, but certain truths do emerge which are as applicable today as they were 2,000 years ago.

(a) **There is a struggle for our loyalties.** Paul did not attempt to offer a definitive statement as to who the "evil one" was or when he would step forward in the scene of history. He simply wanted the Thessalonians to stop spending so much time worrying about and waiting for the event and to get on with the job of living for and in Christ Jesus.

Even today there are those Christians who spend so much time and energy trying to define and identify the anti-Christ that they neglect the task to which God has called them. By default they are guilty of giving more prominence and importance to the ultimate loser than to the ultimate victor. As Martin Buber observed, "If the Messiah has come, where are the Messiah's people?" That's a stinging question from a Jewish philosopher, but it's one we need to hear and consider. "Where are the Messiah's people if he has come?"

In Thessalonica they were doing nothing while wringing their hands in fear. Inertia and fear have no permanent place in the Christian experience and, like the Thessalonians, we need

to be reminded of that fact.

(b) **Whose battle are we fighting?** Paul was trying to get the believers on the move by reminding them that they were fighting the wrong battle. They, like us, weren't to be fighting each other — they were to be fighting the power of evil and that is God's battle.

When Jesus said to his disciples, "... on this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven ..." (Matt. 16:19), he was not issuing an anemic promise of support. Rather, he was proclaiming a transfusion of power for his disciples.

We sing "A mighty fortress is our God ..." — and he is, but too often we adopt a "hold the fort" mentality. This passage in Matthew bursts with the command to move out and batter down the gates of hell and that's action! Sitting idly by and wringing our hands will not usher in God's kingdom. We need to be busy in fighting the battle God has given us with the armaments he has promised.

(2) **Victory is certain (vs. 13-17)** Everyone loves a winner and most of us like to be on a winning team. It

gives us a sense of security and confidence in what we do and tends to move us out from a holding pattern. This is the truth of what Paul is communicating here to the Thessalonians. A paraphrastic translation might read: "Look, friends, you ought to live in gratitude and praise for what God has done for you. He loves you, he's chosen you for service, and he's called you to share in Christ's glory. Why are you sitting around doing nothing? Get busy and be about the task he has given, for you have a secret weapon which the world does not have — the knowledge that you're on the winning side." What a promise!

If you've ever watched a master play an amateur at the game of checkers, you've probably observed that in early plays, it seems as though the novice will win. In reality, the master is only lining things up so he can sweep the board clean once he moves his man into "king's row." His voice rings with triumph as he says, "Crown that man king!"

In a like manner, Paul reminds the Thessalonians that even though it may appear that evil has the upper hand, God is the master player. In his

time, he will sweep the board of history clean, point mankind to his Son and say, "Now, crown this man king!"

Peter McLeod is pastor, First, Hattiesburg.

Baptist Record

CARRIER ROUTE 39
005-DTM 291 6-26
SO BAPT HIS SOCIETY 00
SUITE 400
901 COMMERCE ST
NASHVILLE TN 37203

Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205

June 26, 1986